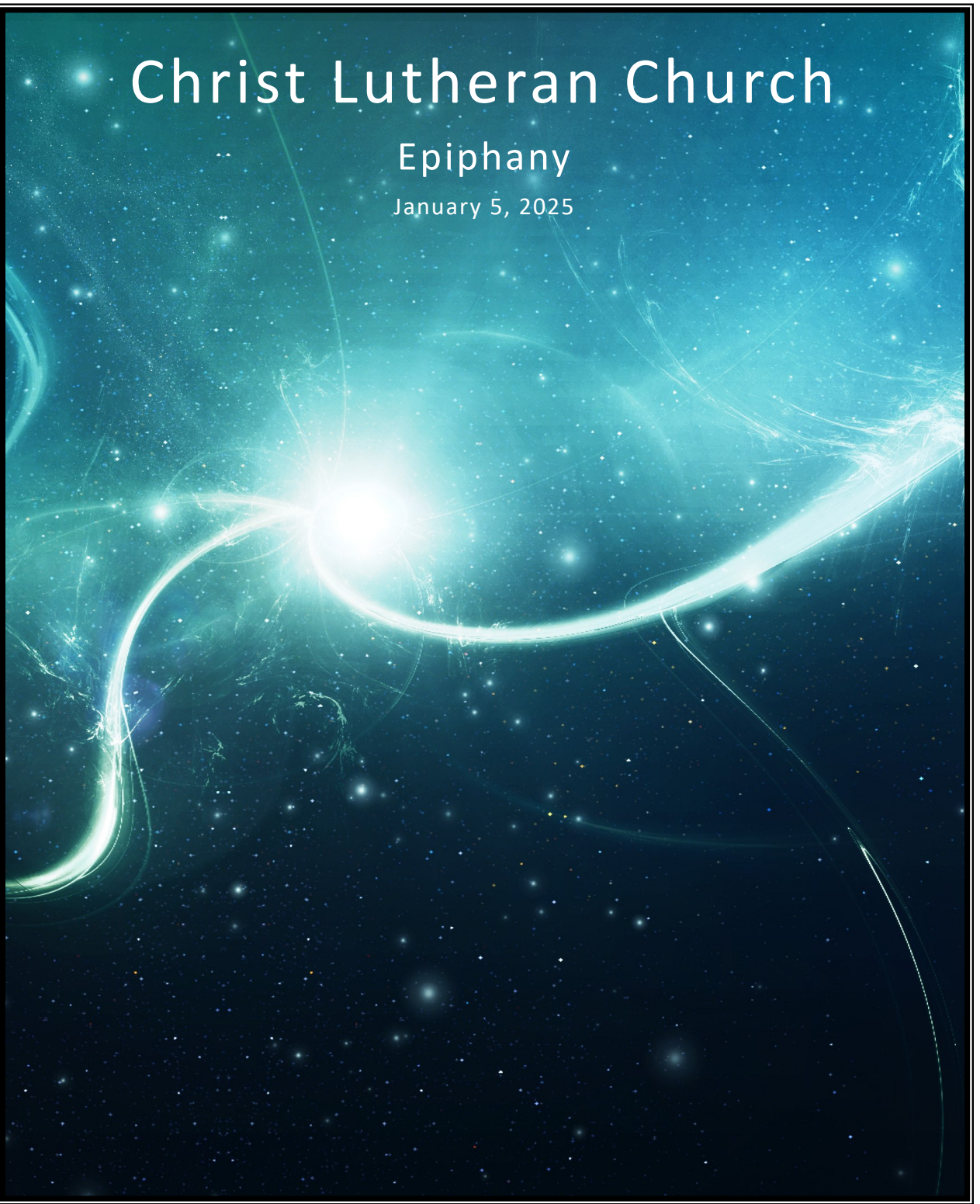


Christ Lutheran Church

Epiphany

January 5, 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 <https://clcah.org/contact-us/give-online/>



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6720 Broadway St. | San Antonio, TX 78209 | 210.822.3394 | www.clcah.org

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Maestoso from "Christmas Oratorio – Saint Saens

WELCOME

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

CALL TO WORSHIP

We are wanderers . . .

Who stumble, slip, and fall.

We are wanderers . . .

Who dream foolish dreams.

We are wanderers . . .

Whose hearts ache to find fulfillment.

We are wanderers . . .

**Who look to the horizons, suns rising and setting, stars brightly shining,
moons aglow.**

We are wanderers . . .

Who wonder and question and explore.

We are wanderers . . .

Who seek a baby in a manger. Amen.

GATHERING CAROL

We Three Kings



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing
2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I
3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense
4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a
5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,
bring to crown him a - gain; king for - ev - er,
owns a de - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,
life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,
God and Sac - ri - fice; heav'n sings al - le -



moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.
glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

Refrain



Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891, alt.

Music: THREE KINGS OF ORIENT, John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820–1891

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

Pastor Leslie Price

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.

LITANY OF THE MORNING STAR

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

The star in the dark sky heralded his coming.

Led by the light of the star, the wise ones came to pay homage.

We, too, come to the stable, seeking the infant king.

Come, arise! Shine! The light has come.

God's light of love has descended upon us. Amen.

The congregation may be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 60:1-6

Pew Bible/Old Testament page #690

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 3:7-12

Pew Bible/New Testament page #193

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the second chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12

Pew Bible/New Testament page #2

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation may be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Leslie Price

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

He Comes to Us as One Unknown

ELW #737

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: "**receive our prayer.**"*

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

The congregation may be seated.

MEAL

OFFERTORY

Bring a Torch - Jeanette Isabella
Piano Solo - Ronda Lantz

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 clcab.org and scroll to the offering button.

The congregation is invited to stand as able.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Fall on Your Knees

$\text{♩} = 89$

Long lay the world in sin and sorrow pining, Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth. A
6
thrill of hope the weary world rejoices, For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn! Fall on your knees! O
12
hear the angel voices! Behold your King, before Him lowly bend! His power and
19
glory ever more proclaim!

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray together. God of understanding, **even though we wander, it is still you for whom we are searching.** As we journey, remind us to give as you gave, to live as you lived, to love as you loved, in Christ's name we pray. Amen.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

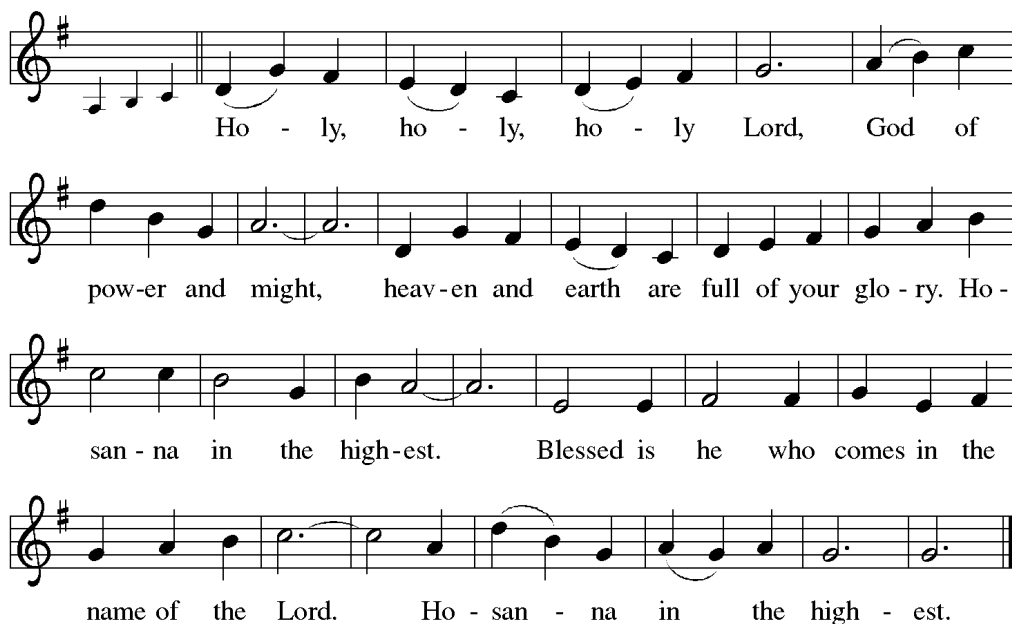
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, in whom you have revealed yourself, our light and our salvation. You sent a star to guide the Magi to where the Christ was born. Your signs and wonders in every age and throughout the world have led people from far places to the light of Christ.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember Jesus dwelling among us,
full of light and life.

We look with hope for his coming,
when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light.

Come, Lord Jesus.

By your Spirit bless us and this meal,
that refreshed by heavenly food,
we may be light for the world,
revealing the brilliance of your Son.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,
Word of God incarnate,
Light to the Nations,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.

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.**

The congregation may be seated.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

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

As with Gladness Men of Old

ELW #302

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. God who walks alongside us, **you have made known to us the light and love of our Lord Jesus Christ, born a baby in Bethlehem. Strengthen our faith through the receiving of this holy sacrament, his very body and blood poured out for us, until the final day dawns and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts forever. Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

The light of the star, the light of God's love, shines before you as you leave this place. Go in peace, go in joy, go in love to meet God's people in the world and greet them with the good news of salvation. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Joy to the World

ELW #267

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Wondrous Tidings – Simone

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Preaching Minister
Presiding Minister
Assisting Ministers
Lectors

8:30 a.m.

Pastor Leslie Price
Pastor Howard Stendahl
Rev. Lorraine Potter
Sarah Borrell

10:30 a.m.

Pastor Leslie Price
Pastor Howard Stendahl
Scott Merkord
Sarah Loyd

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

President Michael Fischer
Vice President Bryan Woods
Treasurer Jeff Timm
Secretary Paul Pfeifer

At-Large Member
At-Large Member
At-Large Member

Rhonda Barsalou
James Ehler
Edna Robbins

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

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

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

WELCOME TEAM

Carolyn Dufelmeier, Lori Harris, Bob Logan, Mary Lynn Logan - Chair, Bob & Karen Corder, Bill Chavers, Joan Woods, Mary Overstreet, Edna Robbins, Ida Marie Schultz, Ulf Balldin, Jennifer Dunn, 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. - Children of all ages - Epiphany Party and Banner Making, Fellowship Hall
- 11:30 a.m. - Un-Hanging of the Greens, Sanctuary

THIS WEEK

Monday, January 6

- 9:00 a.m. Money Counters, Parlor
- 6:30 p.m. Joseph's Sons, Longhorn Café at 1003 Rittiman Rd.

Tuesday, January 7

- 9:00 a.m. Quilters, Primrose House
- 6:45 p.m. CLC Book Club, Parlor

Wednesday January 8

- 5:30 p.m. Gloria Choir, Sanctuary
- 5:30 p.m. Angelicus Choir, Children's Chapel
- 5:30 p.m. Conversational Spanish, Parlor
- 6:00 p.m. Confirmation, upstairs in the education wing
- 6:15 p.m. Fellowship Dinner, Fellowship Hall

Thursday, January 9

- 9:30 a.m. The Gathering, Bird Bakery



EPIPHANY PARTY

Children of all ages are invited to help decorate Epiphany banners, enjoy some delicious snacks, and listen to the story of the Epiphany.

Today
9:30 a.m.
Fellowship Hall



JOSEPH'S SONS

Monday, January 6, 6:30 p.m., Longhorn Café at 1003 Rittiman Rd.

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

CLC BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, January 7, 6:45 p.m., Primrose House

Readers! The CLC Book Club will meet to discuss *The Small and the Mighty* by Sharon McMahon. Judy Gomez will lead the discussion. Please join us!

GROWING OUR WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS

Wednesdays, January 8, 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: <http://bit.ly/4fl4kDQ>

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.

CAMP CHRYSALIS INFORMATION SESSION

Sunday, January 12, 9:30 a.m., Children's Chapel

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.

FAITH UNIVERSITY IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

Sunday, January 12, 9:30 a.m., 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, 9:30 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 starting January 12, for \$10.00. You may pay via our website, via Venmo @christ-lutheran-3 or via the offering plate.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

Sunday, January 12, 11:40 a.m. - 2:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Typically, 5th graders receive First Communion instruction and then their First Communion at Christ Lutheran. But we also are open to your child's spiritual timeline and readiness to partake in the sacrament. If you are interested in having your child attend First Communion classes, please reach out to Pastor Leslie or Ms. Carrie.

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 lisa@clcah.org.

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.

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.

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.

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!