



SUNDAY MARCH 23TH, 2025

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT, YEAR C



OUR MISSION: God calls us to live and share the amazing love and grace of Jesus Christ with all people.

Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church. Christ Lutheran Church is a *Reconciling in Christ* congregation that welcomes all. May God bless us in Word and Sacrament, music and community in our worship today. The service is complete in this bulletin. The spoken responses are **bolded text**.

We acknowledge that our building of worship is built upon the territory of xučyun (Huichin), the unceded land stewarded by the Ohlone people who speak to their Creator and loved ones in the language of Chochoeny.

INTRODUCTION

The warnings are plentiful and blunt on the third Sunday in Lent. Cut it out or get cut down! The warnings are accompanied by God's invitation to attentiveness: "Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live." The landowner's ultimatum is forestalled by the gardener's readiness to till the ground one more year. That is good news for all of us. Thanks be to God!

GATHERING

During the season of Lent, we observe a time of silence within the sanctuary. We encourage you to embrace this quiet space for prayer, meditation, and reflection. Please be mindful and maintain silence inside the sanctuary before worship begins. If you wish to converse, the fellowship hall is available for gathering and fellowship. Let us honor this sacred time together.

CONFESSION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.

Compassionate One,
**you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,
but our lives do not always reflect you
and your love for the world.**

**We do not show others the tender compassion
you have shown to us.**

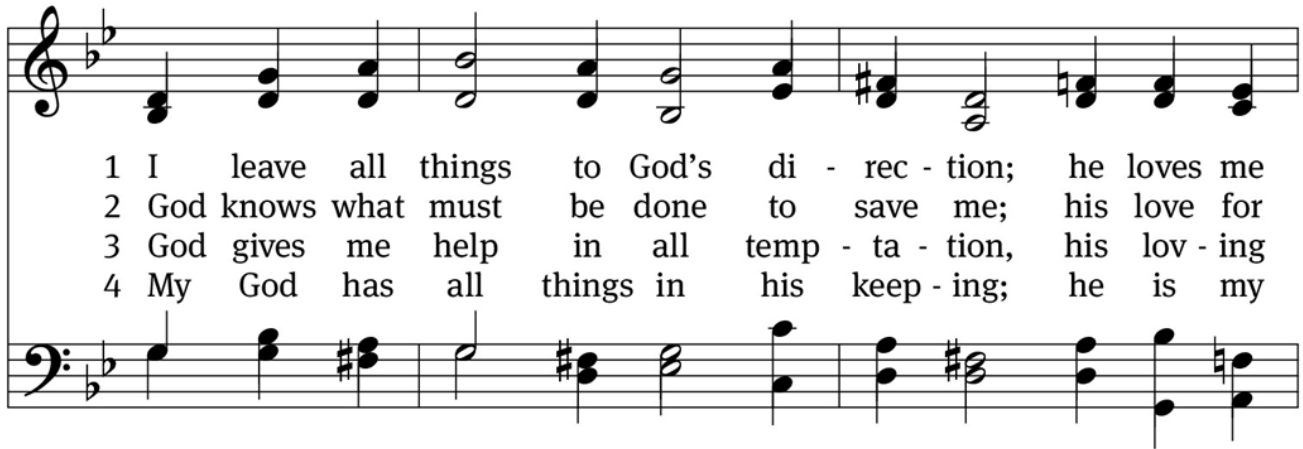
**We do not welcome others with the radical
hospitality you grant to all people.**

**We oppress others,
even though you have set us free again and
again.**

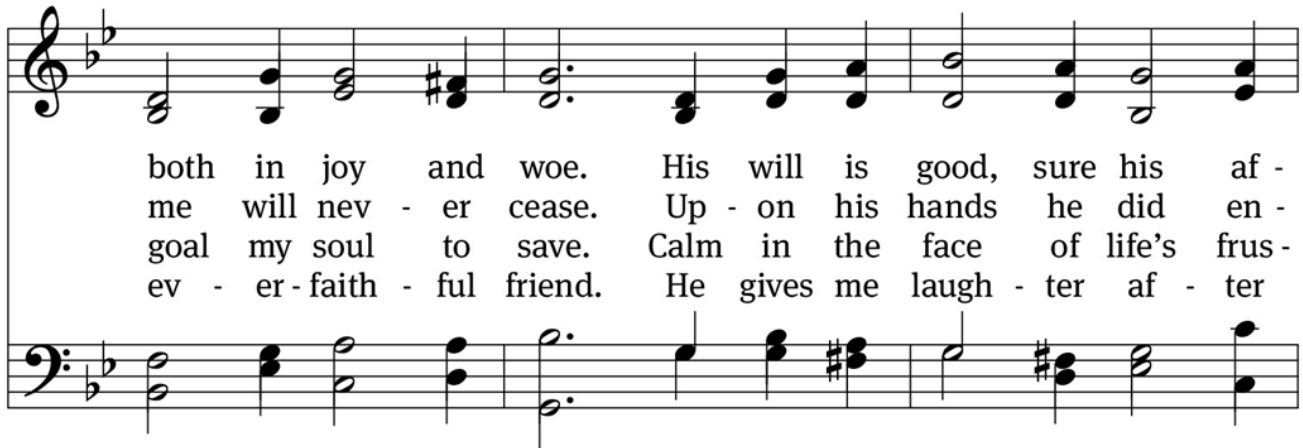
**We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.
Transform our lives**

**and guide us again in the way of the cross.
Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN— CW 799: *I Leave All Things to God's Direction*



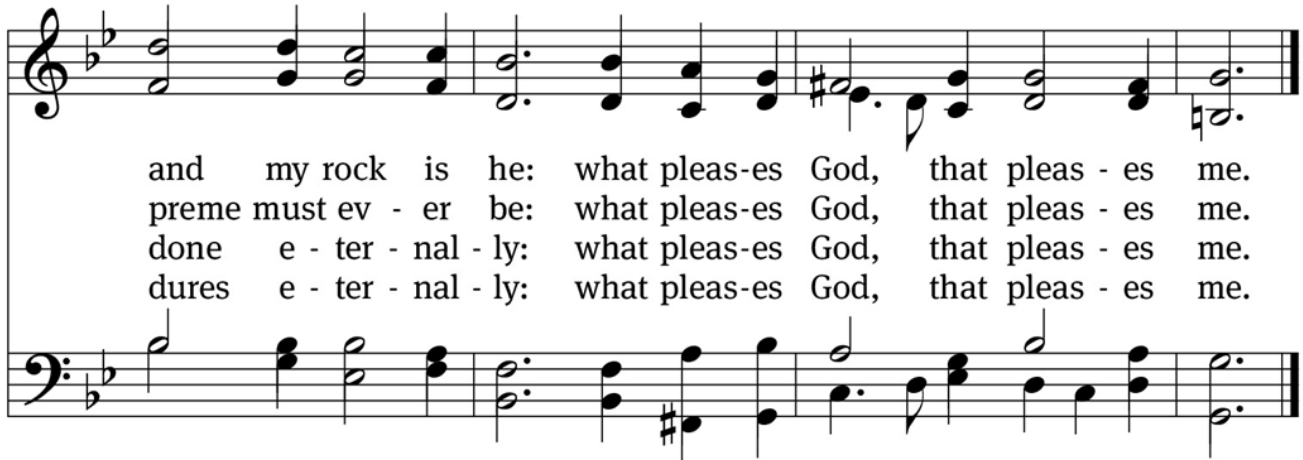
1 I leave all things to God's di - rec - tion; he loves me
2 God knows what must be done to save me; his love for
3 God gives me help in all temp - ta - tion, his lov - ing
4 My God has all things in his keep - ing; he is my



both in joy and woe. His will is good, sure his af -
me will nev - er cease. Up - on his hands he did en -
goal my soul to save. Calm in the face of life's frus -
ev - er - faith - ful friend. He gives me laugh - ter af - ter



fec - tion; his ten - der love is true, I know. My for - tress
grave me with pur - est gold of lov - ing grace. His will su -
tra - tion, all earth - ly trou - ble I will brave. His will be
weep - ing, and all his ways in bless - ings end. His love en -



and my rock is he: what pleas - es God, that pleas - es me.
preme must ev - er be: what pleas - es God, that pleas - es me.
done e - ter - nal - ly: what pleas - es God, that pleas - es me.
dures e - ter - nal - ly: what pleas - es God, that pleas - es me.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE

You were sent to heal the contrite of heart. Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

You came to call sinners. Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

You are seated at the right of the Father to intercede for us.
Lord, have mercy. Lord have, mercy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

WORD

FIRST READING— Isaiah 55:1-9

All of you who are thirsty, come to the water! Whoever has no money, come, buy food and eat! Without money, at no cost, buy wine and milk! Why spend money for what isn't food, and your earnings for what doesn't satisfy? Listen carefully to me and eat what is good; enjoy the richest of feasts. Listen and come to me; listen, and you will live. I will make an everlasting covenant with you, my faithful loyalty to David, of whom I made a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander of peoples. Look, you will call a nation you don't know, a nation you don't know will

run to you because of the Lord your God, the holy one of Israel, who has glorified you.

Seek me, your God, while I can still be found; call me while I am near. Let the wicked abandon their ways and the sinful their schemes. Let them return to me so that I may have mercy on them, because I am generous with forgiveness. My plans aren't your plans, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. Just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my plans than your plans.

“Word of God, Word of Life.” **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 63

1. Thou art my God, I seek Thy face. O God, for Thee I thirst and languish;
 2. Thy steadfast love is better far Than life itself, O God my Savior.
 3. In Thy rich blessings I delight As in a lavish feast before me.

For Thee my flesh grows faint with anguish Here in this dry and weary place.
 Thy faithfulness will never waver; My lips Thy praises will declare.
 In meditation I adore Thee Throughout the watches of the night.

When I stood in Thy sanctuary, Where Thou art worshipped and adored,
 With joyful singing I will bless Thee And all my life Thy love proclaim.
 I cling to Thee, my strong Deliverer, And in the shadow of Thy wings

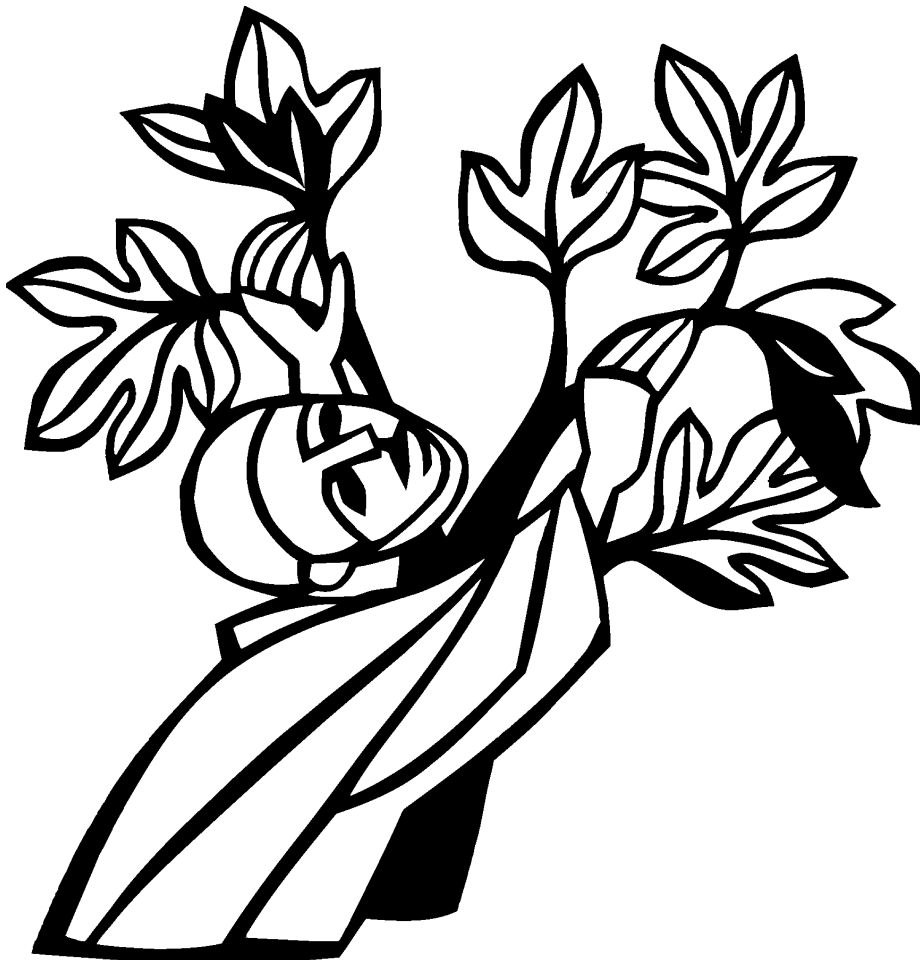
I there beheld Thy greatness, LORD, And marvelled at Thy power and glory.
 With hands up-lifted in Thy name, I will in thankful prayer address Thee.
 My mouth for joy Thy praises sings, For Thy right hand up-holds me ever.

SECOND READING— 1 CORINTHIANS 10:1-13

Beloved siblings, I want you to be sure of the fact that our ancestors were all under the cloud and they all went through the sea. All were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. All ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. They drank from a spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. However, God was unhappy with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. These things were examples for us, so we won't crave evil things like they did. Don't worship false gods like some of them did, as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink and they got up to play.

Let's not be immoral, like some of them did, and twenty-three thousand died in one day. Let's not test Christ, like some of them did, and were killed by the snakes. Let's not grumble, like some of them did, and were killed by the destroyer. These things happened to them as an example and were written as a warning for us to whom the end of time has come. So those who think they are standing need to watch out or else they may fall. No temptation has seized you that isn't common for people. But God is faithful, and won't allow you to be tempted beyond your abilities. Instead, with the temptation, God will also supply a way out so that you will be able to endure it.

“Word of God, Word of Life.” Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glo - ry to you, O Word of God, Lord Je - sus
Christ! Glo - ry to you, O Word of God, Lord
Je - sus Christ!

Lord, you are truly the Savior of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again.

GOSPEL—LUKE 13:1-9

The Gospel according to... **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Some told Jesus about the Galileans whom Pilate had killed while they were offering sacrifices. He replied, “Do you think the suffering of these Galileans proves that they were more sinful than all the other Galileans? No, I tell you, but unless you change your hearts and lives, you will die just as they did. What about those eighteen people who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them? Do you think that they were more guilty of wrongdoing than everyone else who lives in Jerusalem? No, I tell you, but unless you change your hearts and lives, you will die just as they did.”

Jesus told this parable: “A fig tree had been planted in a vineyard. The owner came looking for fruit on it and found none. The owner said to the gardener, ‘Look, I’ve come looking for fruit on this fig tree for the past three years, and I’ve never found any. Cut it down! Why should it continue depleting the soil’s nutrients?’ The gardener responded, ‘Lord, give it one more year, and I will dig around it and give it fertilizer. Maybe it will produce fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down.’”

This is the Good news. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON— PR. RON

HYMN OF THE DAY— *I Believe in the Sun*



I be - lieve in the sun. I be - lieve in the sun, e-ven
I be - lieve in love. I be - lieve in love, e-ven
I be - lieve in God. I be - lieve in God, e-ven



when, e - ven when it's not shin - ning
when, e - ven when I don't feel it.
when, e - ven when God is si - lent.



I be - lieve in the sun. I be - lieve in the sun,
I be - lieve in love. I be - lieve in love,
I be - lieve in God. I be - lieve in God,



e-ven when, e-ven when it's not shin - ning
e-ven when, e-ven when I don't feel it.
e-ven when, e-ven when God is si - lent.

APOSTLES CREED

As we reflect and nurture our baptismal promises during Lent, all are invited to recite this ancient baptismal creed. Visitors, please feel free to participate at your own comfort level.

I believe in God the Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's chosen one, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, was buried, and descended to the dead. Christ rose again on the third day, ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of God, and will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church, called to be a witness to all peoples. Grant humility and wisdom to bishops, pastors, deacons, elders, councils, and congregations, that they may call upon you in making decisions. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for the earth, called to provide abundantly. Teach your people the goodness of your generosity, that in sharing what we have been given, all life may flourish on the planet that is our shared home. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for the nations, called to protect their inhabitants and collaborate in the work of justice and peace. Forge bonds of compassion and mutual care across human borders and boundaries, that all the world may have enough to live. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for those in need, called to receive your compassion especially for Karen, Julie, Sandy, Fred, George G., Maryann H., Evie D., Diane, Carla, Laurie & John P., and the family and friends of Cindy Fosselius. Comfort those whose lives have been disrupted through natural disasters and human conflict. Aid communities in coming together to mourn, heal, and rebuild. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for this assembly, called to welcome its neighbors to the table of your grace. Bless food pantries, community gardens and kitchens, clean water projects, and all ministries that address human hunger and thirst. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

What else do the people of God pray for?

We give thanks for the faithful lives of those who proclaimed your gospel in times of challenge and strife, and for all those whose lives of love and service have ended. May their witness inspire our own. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

MEAL

The white juice in the center rim is non-alcoholic, the red on the outside is wine.

Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

OFFERING

For nearly two thousand years, churches across the globe have collected a weekly offering for God's work in the world. In addition to paying our staff and utilities, these monies also go toward feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, caring for the ill, and natural disaster work, in partnership with Lutherans around the world.

OFFERTORY- ELW 185: *Create in Me a Clean Heart*

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.
Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me
with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,
and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

OFFERING PRAYER

COMMUNION

In the night in which he was arrested.... let us pray as Jesus taught us

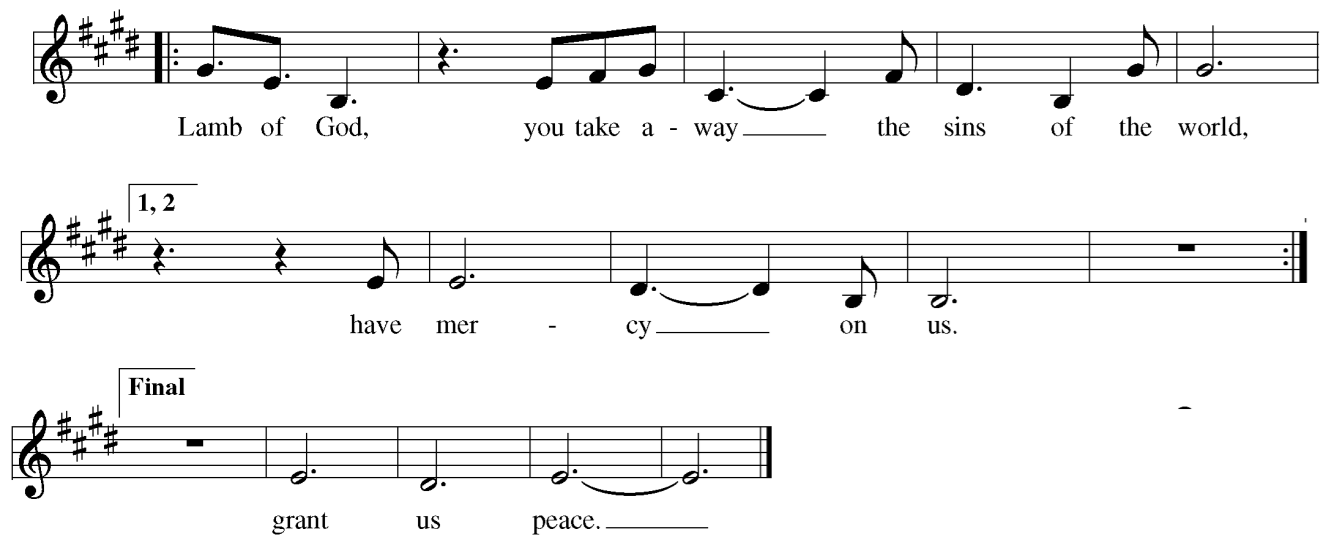
THE LORD'S PRAYER



Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we
for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a - way _____ the sins of the world,
have mer - cy _____ on us.
Final
grant us peace. _____

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN— *Keep Me*



keep me. When Your pur-poses are veiled, Fath-er keep me. When You treat us as sons, oh let
Your will be done, You are good, I be-lieve, Fath-er keep me. 2. When temp-ta-tion press-es in, Sav-ior
heart is cold and frail, Spi-rit
keep me. When my pass-ions rage with-in, Sav-ior keep me. When my soul can-not bear all the
keep me. When my flesh and heart may fail, Spi-rit keep me. When I'm weak, be my strength, let no
sins that en-snare, lest I fall, help me stand, Sav-ior keep me. O Lord keep me, by Your
doubt ov-er-take, oh when anx-ious fears ar-ise, Spi-rit keep me.
mer-cy; oh I lift up my eyes to You. Till the morn-ing, God of glo-ry, You will
ne-ver let my soul be moved. Keep me, Lord.

3. When my

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. **Thanks be to God!**

Please feel free to stay and observe a moment of silence before you leave the sanctuary. This is also a good time to light a candle at our prayer corner in the back of the sanctuary. For those who wish to visit, please make your way to Fellowship Hall so as not to disturb others.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wednesday 6:30 PM Lenten Soup & Community Schedule:

March 26th - Hope Lutheran
April 2nd - University Lutheran
April 9th - Christ Lutheran

Holy Week:

Maundy Thursday: Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran
Good Friday: Christ Lutheran 7pm
Vigil of Easter: University Lutheran 9pm

PASTOR RON'S OFF WEEKS:

March 31st-April 6th
April 21st-May 4th

HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT CLC

Sunday

9:00 AM-9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM CLC Worship
12:00 PM Good Table Worship

Monday

9:00 AM- 3:00 PM Senior Center

Tuesday

7:00 PM Lady AA Meeting

Wednesday

6:30 PM Lenten Soup & Community

Thursday

12:00 PM Staff Meeting
7:00 PM- Handbell Rehearsal

Saturday

6:00 PM Millenium AA Meeting

Next Sunday

9:00 AM-9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal
10:00 AM CLC Worship
12:00 PM Good Table Worship

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|
| Julie D. | Sandy Z. | Carla L. |
| Diane L. | Carolina S. | Vince |
| Lysle P. | Karen H. | Thelma & Mike G. |
| Mike & Liz S. | Laurie P. | Family and friends of Avery G. |
| The Vale Community | Fred W. | Family and friends of Marcia K. |
| Robin & Wendy | Chad B. | Family and friends of Cindy F. |
| George F. | TJ B. | |

DON'T FORGET YOUR OFFERING

Thank you for your continued financial support of Christ Lutheran. It is very much appreciated. Options for giving include bringing offerings in person, mailing checks, or giving electronically with Tithely. For the latter, simply click the "Giving" tab on the church website. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Amy Tiekku at 510-290-2125

WORSHIP FROM HOME- Livestream at Facebook.com/clec.org. Bulletins can be found at christlutheranelcerrito.org/bulletins/

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