



**SUNDAY MARCH 30TH, 2025**  
**FOURTH 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 psalm sets the tone this day: “Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!” Happy are those who have “become the righteousness of God” in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has “rolled away . . . the disgrace” of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus’ sake. Rejoice!

**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— *Shout to the Lord*

My Je - sus, my Sav - iour, Lord, there is none like You;

All of my days I want to praise the won - ders of Your

might - y love. My com - fort, my shel - ter,

Tow - er of ref - uge and strength; Let ev - 'ry breath,

all that I am, nev - er cease to wor - ship You.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing.

Pow - er and maj - es - ty, praise to the King.

Moun - tains bow down and the seas will roar at the

sound of Your name. I sing for joy at the work

of Your hands, for - ev - er I'll love You, for - ev -

er I'll stand, \_\_\_\_\_ noth - ing com - pares \_\_\_\_\_ to the prom -

ise I have \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ You. \_\_\_\_\_

**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— JOSHUA 5:9-12**

Then the Lord said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” So the place was called Gilgal, as it is today. The Israelites camped in Gilgal. They celebrated Passover on the evening of the fourteenth day of the month on the plains of Jericho. On the very next day after Passover, they ate food produced in the land: unleavened bread and roasted grain. The manna stopped on that next day, when they ate food produced in the land. There was no longer any manna for the Israelites. So that year they ate the crops of the land of Canaan.

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

# PSALM 32

1. How blessed the one who has re-ceived for-give-ness for his sin! Whose  
 2. When I kept sil-ent, all my bones with groan-ing were worn out. Be-  
 3. Then I laid bare my sin to you, the guilt that lay with-in. I  
 4. So let the god-ly pray to you while you are to be found. Sure-

sins are cov-ered from God's face, whose debt is can-celled  
 neath your hand I felt en-trapped both day and night; my  
 said, "O LORD, I have trans-gressed." And you for-gave when  
 ly when waves are sweep-ing past and migh-ty wat-ers

in God's grace; there's no de-icit in him.  
 strength was sapped as in a sum-mer drought.  
 I con-fessed; you par-doned all my sin.  
 ris-ing fast, you'll keep them safe and sound.

5. You are my hiding-place, O LORD,  
 my true security.  
 You keep me safe in troubled days;  
 You circle me with joyful praise  
 when you have set me free.

6. I will instruct you by my word  
 and guide you in my way.  
 My counsel I will give to you;  
 My eye will keep your path in view  
 and watch you day by day.



## SECOND READING— 2 CORINTHIANS 5:16-21

So then, from this point on we won't recognize people by human standards. Even though we used to know Christ by human standards, that isn't how we know Christ now. So then, if anyone is in Christ, that person is part of the new creation. The old things have gone away, and look, new things have arrived!

All of these new things are from God, who reconciled us through Christ and who gave us the ministry of reconciliation. In other words, God was reconciling the world through Christ, by not counting people's sins against them, and has trusted us with this message of reconciliation.

So we are ambassadors who represent Christ. God is negotiating with you through us. We beg you as Christ's representatives, "Be reconciled to God!" God caused the one who didn't know sin to besin for our sake so that through Christ we could become the righteousness of God.

"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!

*Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son*

## **GOSPEL—LUKE 15:1-3, 11-32**

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

All the tax collectors and outcasts were gathering around Jesus to listen to him. The Pharisees and legal experts were grumbling, saying, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.” So Jesus told them this parable:

“A certain man had two sons. The younger son said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the inheritance.’ Then the father divided his estate between them. Soon afterward, the younger son gathered everything together and took a trip to a land far away. There, he wasted his wealth through extravagant living. When he had used up his resources, a severe food shortage arose in that country and he began to be in need. He hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. He longed to eat his fill from what the pigs ate, but no one gave him anything. When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have more than enough food, but I’m starving to death! I will get up and go to my father, and say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son. Take me on as one of your hired hands.’ So he got up and went to his father.

“While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with compassion. His father ran to him, hugged him, and kissed him. Then his son said, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son.’ But the father said to his servants,

‘Quickly, bring out the best robe and put it on him! Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet! Fetch the fattened calf and slaughter it. We must celebrate with feasting because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life! He was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

“Now his older son was in the field. Coming in from the field, he approached the house and heard music and dancing. He called one of the servants and asked what was going on. The servant replied, ‘Your brother has arrived, and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he received his son back safe and sound.’ The older son was furious and didn’t want to enter in, but his father came out and begged him. He answered his father, ‘Look, I’ve served you all these years, and I never disobeyed your instruction. Yet you’ve never given me as much as a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours returns, after gobbling up your estate on prostitutes, you slaughtered the fattened calf for him!’ Then his father said, ‘Son, you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive. He was lost and is found.’

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

SERMON— PR. RON

HYMN OF THE DAY— *I Came Broken, Just As I Am*



1. Just as I am with - out one plea but that — Thy  
2. Just as I am and wait - ing not to rid — my  
3. Just as I am I would be lost, but mer - cy and



blood was shed for me, and — that Thou bidst — me come to  
soul of one dark blot. To — Thee whose blood — can cleanse each  
grace my free - dom bought. And — now to glo - ry in Your



Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
cross, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.



I come bro - ken to be mend-ed. I come wound-ed to be



healed. — I come des-p'rate to be res-cued. I come emp - ty to be filled. — I come



guilt - y to be par-doned by the blood of Christ, the Lamb. And I'm wel-comed with



o - pen arms, praise — God, just as I am.

## **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**

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

God of faithful promise, make your church a new creation in Christ. As you reconcile us to yourself, guide us also in your way of reconciliation, that through confession and forgiveness, repentance and reparations, your church may bear witness to your love. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God of new beginnings, restore balance to the earth. Send rain to places of drought and sunshine to places of flooding, that the produce of the land may again support life. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God of prodigal grace, unite the nations as fellow members of the human family. Give leaders the courage to put aside pride and ego, to cease squandering lives and time, and to work for the well-being of all. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God of boundless love, receive with open arms any in need of 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. Embrace all who are far from home or estranged from loved ones, and all who live with regret. Embolden your people to offer and to seek forgiveness. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God of radical inclusion, widen human circles to welcome all who are excluded. Bless the work of disability ministries, ministries by and with neurodivergent people, and multicultural and ethnic-specific ministries; that the welcome of Jesus be extended to all. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

*What else do the people of God pray for?*

God of resurrection life, welcome home all who have died. We thank you for their lives and entrust them into your keeping, where true reconciliation and eternal peace are found. God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

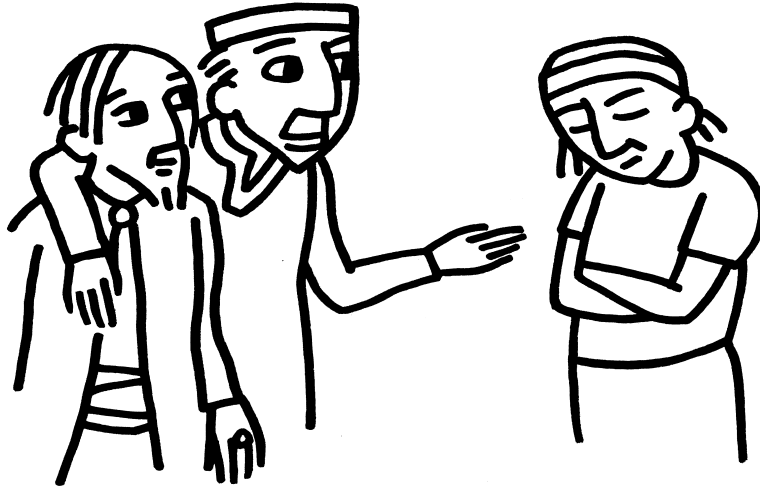
Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

**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.*

## CHORAL OFFERING - *Child of God* - Mark Miller

*No matter what people say, say or think about me — I am a child of God.*

*No matter what people say, say or think about you — You are a child of God.*

*No matter what the church says, decisions, pronouncements, on you — You are a child of God.*

*And there is nothing, and no one who can separate -- they can't separate you from the truth that you are someone,*

*you are family, you are meant to be a child of God.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

## COMMUNION

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

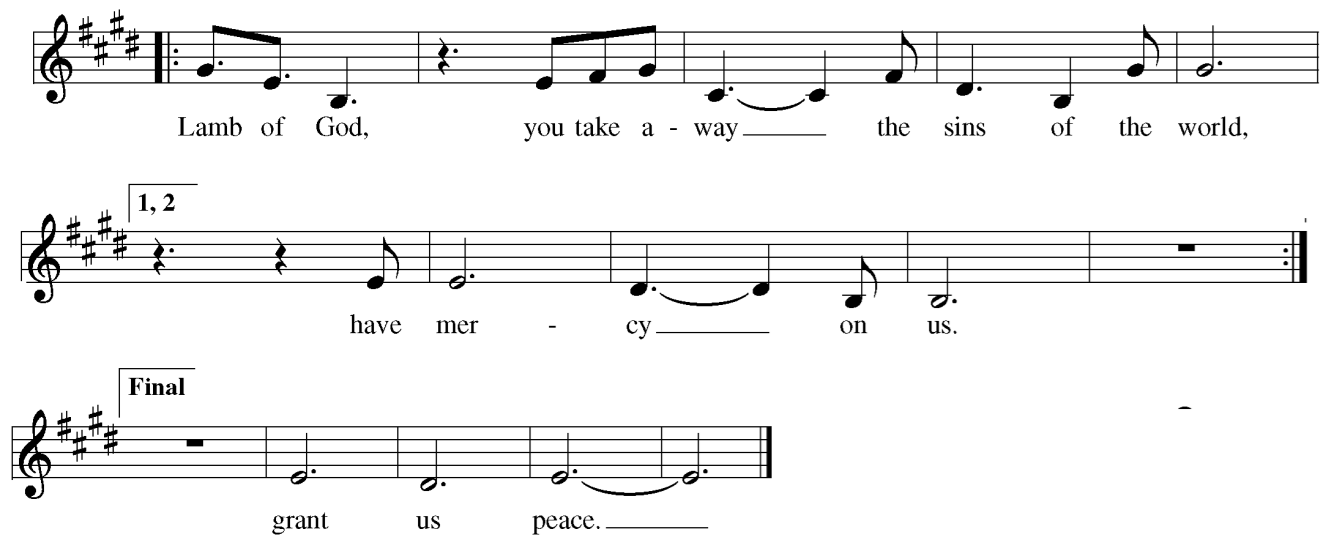
# THE LORD'S PRAYER



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.  
grant us peace. \_\_\_\_\_

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

## SENDING

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BLESSING

### SENDING HYMN— *Joy*- Kirk Franklin

Joy, joy, God's great joy. Joy, joy, down in my soul. \_\_\_\_\_

Sweet, beau-ti-ful, soul sav-ing joy. Oh \_\_\_\_\_ Joy, joy in my soul. \_

### 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:**

April 2<sup>nd</sup> - University Lutheran

April 9<sup>th</sup> - Christ Lutheran

### **Holy Week:**

Maundy Thursday: Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran 6:30pm

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](https://www.facebook.com/clec.org). Bulletins can be found at [christlutheranelcerrito.org/bulletins/](https://christlutheranelcerrito.org/bulletins/)

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