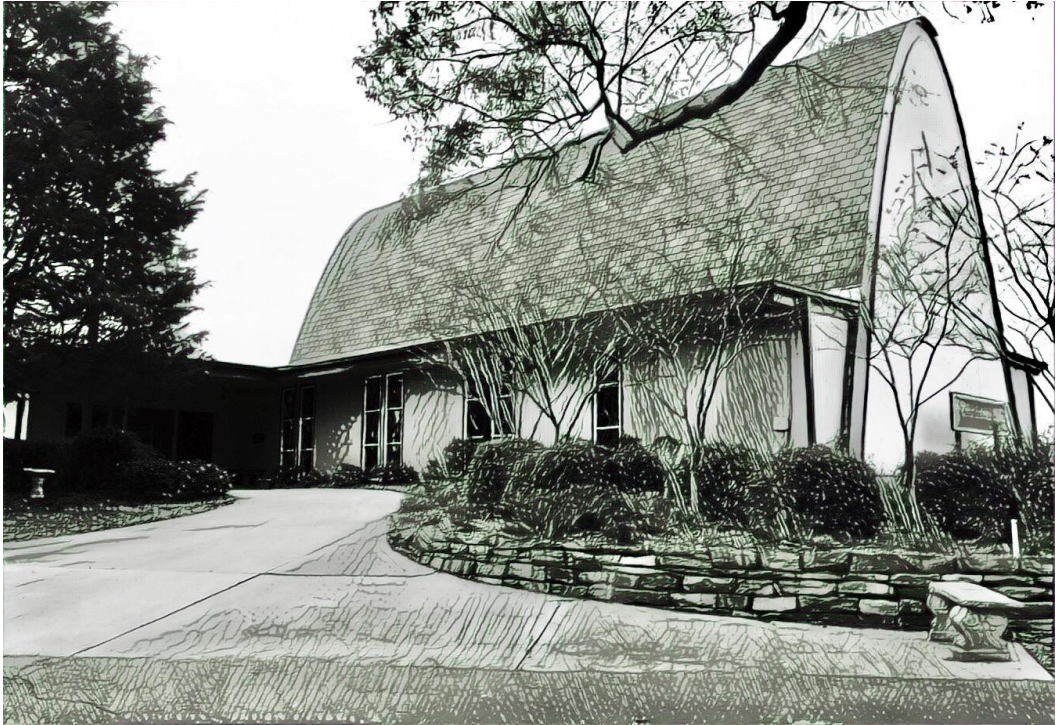


# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH



**Rev. George Fields, Pastor**

**Sr. Sara Fields, Deaconess**

Divine Service Each Week with Holy Communion: **10:30 a.m.**

Sunday School for all ages: **9:00 a.m.**

4423 I-55 North, Jackson, MS 39206-6102 – (601) 366-2055

**[www.ChristLutheranJacksonMS.org](http://www.ChristLutheranJacksonMS.org)**

**THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**  
**+ January 14, 2024 +**

***“The Angels of God Ascending and Descending”***



We welcome our members and guests to Christ Lutheran today,  
and pray God’s richest blessings upon you during this time of worship!

*All members and our guests are asked to complete the  
worship attendance pads which can be found on each pew.  
Guests are also asked to sign the guest register found in the Narthex.  
We are so glad to have you worshipping with us today!*

*LARGE PRINT worship folders are available  
at the usher stand at the back of the nave.*

**WELCOME:**

“Now Jacob had been called in Scripture a man without guile. Jacob, as you know, was surnamed Israel. That is why in the Gospel, when the Lord saw Nathanael, he said ‘Behold, an Israelite indeed in whom there is no guile.’ And that Israelite, not knowing yet who was speaking to him, replied, ‘How do you know me?’ And the Lord said to him, ‘While you were under the fig tree, I saw you,’ as though to say, ‘while you were under the shadow of sin, I predestined you.’ And Nathanael, remembering he had been under the fig tree where the Lord had not been [the fig tree of the fall] recognized the divinity in him.”

– St. Augustine, *Sermon 89*

# THE LORD'S SUPPER

In preparation for reception of the Lord's Supper (*Holy Communion*), it is important that we review and understand what the Bible teaches regarding this sacrament:

The Bible teaches that Jesus gives us His very body and blood along with bread and wine in Holy Communion<sup>1</sup>, and that these are means by which He forgives our sins<sup>2</sup>, and strengthens us for daily living, and draws us into closer fellowship with Him and other believers. The Bible also teaches us to examine ourselves prior to receiving the meal<sup>3</sup>. For those receiving Holy Communion, examine yourself with these questions:

**Do I believe that I am a sinner and I am sorry for my sins?**

**Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God's Son and my personal Savior?**

**Do I believe that Christ's true body and blood are present in this holy meal for my forgiveness?**

**Do I truly intend with the help of God to correct my sinful life?**

According to Christ's Word in the Holy Scriptures, and in confession with the true Christian faith, at Christ Lutheran we observe the practice of closed communion. We believe that all who commune must confess the same holy faith, as Holy Scripture teaches. Since one's church affiliation indicates an individual's confession of faith, we ask that only those who have been instructed in the above teaching **and** are confirmed members of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod commune. If you have not been instructed in this teaching on Holy Communion, are in doubt, or hold a different confession of faith<sup>4</sup>, you are still welcome to come forward and cross your arms to indicate that you would like a blessing.

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<sup>1</sup> Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23

<sup>2</sup> Matthew 26:28; 1 John 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19

<sup>3</sup> 1 Corinthians 11:28-32

<sup>4</sup> 1 Corinthians 10:17; 1 Corinthians 11:26

# DIVINE SERVICE I

## PRESERVICE MUSIC

*The congregation may use this time for prayer and meditation.*

## OPENING HYMN

**Hail to the Lord's Anointed**

**#398**

## CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

# SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT: QUARE FREMUERUNT GENTES

*Psalm 40 :1-5 ; Ant. Psalm 40 :10*



I have not hidden your deliverance with- | in my heart; \*  
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your sal- | vation;

**I waited patiently | for the Lord; \*  
he inclined to me and | heard my cry.**

He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the | miry bog, \*  
and set my feet upon a rock, making my | steps secure.

**He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise | to our God. \*  
Many will see and fear, and put their trust | in the Lord.**

Blessèd is the man who makes the | Lord his trust, \*  
who does not turn to the proud, to those who go astray af- | ter a lie!

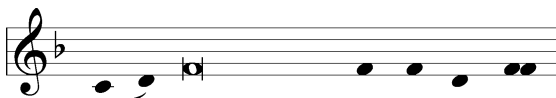
**You have multiplied, O Lord my God, your wondrous deeds and your  
thoughts toward us; none can com- | pare with you! \*  
I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than | can be told.**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son \*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning, \*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

I have not hidden your deliverance with- | in my heart; \*  
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your sal- | vation.

KYRIE

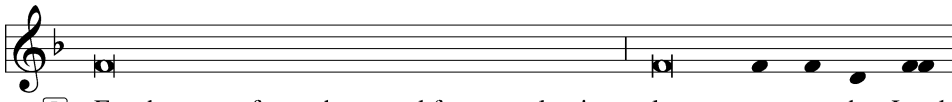
*Mark 10:47*



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



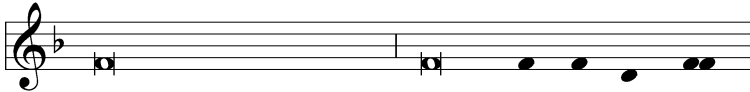
**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



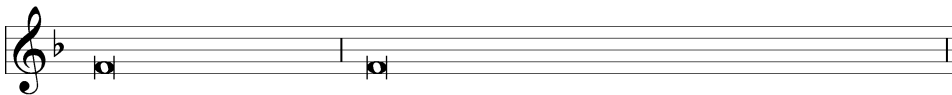
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



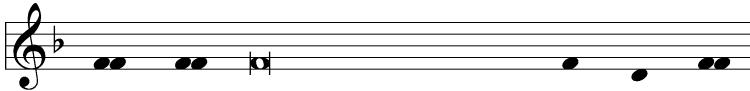
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



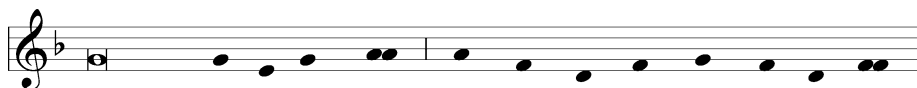
**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

# GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



**C** Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

*Please be seated*

## OLD TESTAMENT

*1 Samuel 3:1-20*

The young man Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. And the word of the Lord was rare in those days; there was no frequent vision.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his own place. The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was.

Then the Lord called Samuel, and he said, "Here I am!" and ran to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down.

And the Lord called again, "Samuel!" and Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him.

And the Lord called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the



young man. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, Lord, for your servant hears.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

And the Lord came and stood, calling as at other times, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant hears.” Then the Lord said to Samuel, “Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which the two ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. And I declare to him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli’s house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever.”

Samuel lay until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. And Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. But Eli called Samuel and said, “Samuel, my son.” And he said, “Here I am.” And Eli said, “What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also if you hide anything from me of all that he told you.” So Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. And he said, “It is the Lord. Let him do what seems good to him.”

And Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established as a prophet of the Lord.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## GRADUAL

*Psalm 117:1-2; 96:8*



Praise the LORD, all | nations!\*

Extol him, all | peoples!

**For great is his steadfast | love toward us,\*  
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures for- | ever.**

**Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name;\*  
bring an offering, and come in- | to his courts!**

**EPISTLE***1 Corinthians 6:12-20*

“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are helpful. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be enslaved by anything. “Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food”—and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, “The two will become one flesh.” But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Please stand*

**ALLELUIA**

**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:43-51

**P** The Holy ✠ Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.” Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said of him, “Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!” Nathanael said to him, “How do you know me?” Jesus answered him, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.” Nathanael answered him, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” Jesus answered him, “Because I said to you, ‘I saw you under the fig tree,’ do you believe? You will see greater things than these.” And he said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Please be seated*

**OFFICE HYMN**

**The Only Son from Heaven**

**#402**

**SERMON**

*Making Sense of a Conversation*

*Please stand*

## NICENE CREED

**C** I believe in one God, (Rom 10:10; Deut 6:4)  
the Father Almighty, (Mt 6:9; Ex 6:3)  
maker of heaven and earth (Gen 1:1; Jn 1:1)  
and of all things visible and invisible. (Col 1:16)  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, (Rom 10:9)  
the only-begotten Son of God, (Jn 3:16; Mt 16:16)  
begotten of His Father before all worlds, (Jn 1:2)  
God of God, Light of Light, (Jn 17:22; Jn 8:12; Jn 1:1)  
very God of very God, (Col 2:9) begotten, not made, (Jn 1:2)  
being of one substance with the Father, (Jn 10:30)  
by whom all things were made; (Heb 1:2; Jn 1:3)  
who for us men and for our salvation (1 Tim 2:4; Rom 3:23)  
came down from heaven (Jn 6:41; Lk 15:20)  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary (Lk 1:34-35)  
and was made man; (Jn 1:14)  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. (Mk 15:25; Jn 19:16-18)  
He suffered and was buried. (Jn 19:1-3; Lk 23:53)  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures (1 Cor 15:4; Lk 24:6)  
and ascended into heaven (Acts 1:9)  
and sits at the right hand of the Father. (Acts 7:55)  
And He will come again with glory (Mt 26:64)  
to judge both the living and the dead, (Acts 10:42; Mt 3:12)  
whose kingdom will have no end. (2 Pt 1:11)  
And I believe in the Holy Spirit, (Jn 14:26; Gen 1:2; Acts 2:38)  
the Lord and giver of life, (Gen 1:2; Jn 3:6)  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son, (Jn 15:26)  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, (Mt 3:16-17)  
who spoke by the prophets. (Eze 11:5)  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, (1 Pt 2:5; Eph 2:19-22)  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, (Eph 4:5)  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead (1 Cor 15:35-49; 1 Thess 4:13-18)  
and the life ✠ of the world to come. (Mk 10:29-30; Mt 10:40-42)  
Amen. (Ps 106:48)

*Us men* means all people.

*Christian:* the ancient text reads “catholic,” meaning the whole Church as it confesses the wholeness of Christian doctrine

## RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBER

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*After each petition of the prayer:*

Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

*For comfort, health, and recovery:* **Maudine Andrews, Laura Booth, Kelly East, Kim Hill, Carmen Hunn, James Junkans, Judy Monroe, Alicia Niemann, Rick Sawyer, Gary Stoeckmann, Donny Thomas, Leslie Thomas, Nikki Vines;**

*For those who mourn:* the family and friends of **Tina Burt, W.D. Page;**

*For those who are ill or distressed:* **Stan Acey, Jenalee Adams, Layne Bagley, Shirley Bagley, W.L. Bagley, Sarah Bowman, Mimi Bradley, Deloris Brent, Martha Brown, Nathan Brown, Hunter Burkhalter, Wayne Burt, Bobby Carroll, James E. Cookston, Joan Cowards, Belinda Cowards-Gonzales, Robert (Andy) Evers, Marie Ferderer & Tahlia, Randy Fowler, Parker Haines, Dan Hansen, Paul Hansen, Tim Hansen, Valerie Henderson, Sharon Holleman, Beth Jarratt, Joslyn Jones, Steve Kennedy, John Koster, Katelyn Lawing, Paul McCullough, Jerry McIntyre, Edlia Miller, Elaine Monaghan, Don Ochs, Mildred Odom, Deborah-Annette Ried, Jon Sandberg, Noah Schultz, Jonnie Pearl Smiley, Bob Smith, Sherri Smith, Deborah Springer, Leonard Watson, Dana Weaver, Cynthia Widlitze, Carol Wright, Jimmy Wright, Marshall Wright, Barbara Zeigler;**

*For college and graduate students:* **Sara Fields, Will Nelson;**

*For military servants and their families:* **Gabriel Escude, James (Glen) Hansford, Holden Hathcock, William Nelson, Steven Tatum, John Weidner Jr.;**

*For foreign missionaries:* **especially Rev. Vance & Linda Becker;**

*This week's prayer family:* **Keith & Anita Martin** and their loved ones.

*Please be seated*

### OFFERING

*Please stand*

OFFERTORY

*Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19*



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo-ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

# SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

## PREFACE

*2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]*



**P** The Lord be with you.



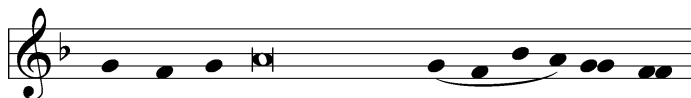
**C** And al - so with you.



**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## SANCTUS

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. † Bless - ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## LORD'S PRAYER

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C** 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 WORDS OF OUR LORD**

*Matthew 26:26–28*

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

**PAX DOMINI**

*John 20:19*

**P** The peace ✠ of the Lord be with you always.



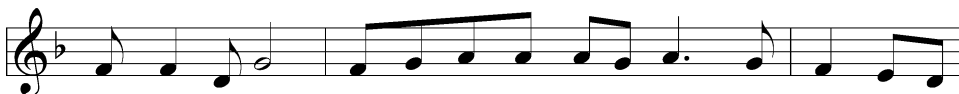
**C** A - men.

**AGNUS DEI**

*John 1:29*



**C** 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.

## DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

*All who are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and have introduced themselves to the pastor are welcome to partake of the Holy Communion at Christ Lutheran. If you have not spoken to the pastor, but would like to receive the Lord's blessing, you may still come to the rail and kneel, crossing one arm over the other in the shape of an 'X'. This symbolizes that one is marked by the cross and Triune name of Almighty God.*

## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

**God Himself Is Present**

**#907**

**O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright**

**#395**

**Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens**

**#589**

*Please stand following distribution of communion*

## NUNC DIMITTIS

*Luke 2:29-32*



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre -



pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -



veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.



Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

### POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

**A** Let us pray.

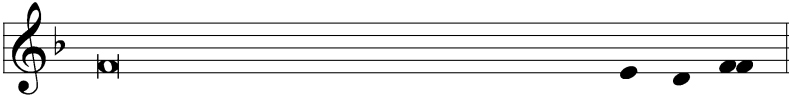
O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

### BENEDICTION

*Numbers 6:24-26*



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



**C** A - men.

### CLOSING HYMN

### Rise, Shine, You People

#825

#### Acknowledgments

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**Serving Today:**

**Pastor:** Rev. George Fields  
**Acolyte:** William Hansford  
**Interpreter:** Denee Smith  
**Altar Guild:** Margaret Haynes

**Elder:** Eric Held  
**Organist:** Sr. Sara Fields  
**Cantor:** Keith Martin

**Altar Flowers:** This morning’s altar flowers are given for the glory of God by the Martins.

**Welcome to Our New Member!** We are excited to welcome Matt Stewart into our Christ Lutheran family! We thank God for bringing him into our midst.

**Altar Flower Sign-Up:** Sign up for the new year! Flowers have a long history of adorning the Lord’s altar, and you can help to continue this beautiful tradition. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you!

**Squirrel Appreciation Day – January 21:** No, it’s not a church holiday... but we consider it a bit of a “saint’s day” here at Christ Lutheran. If you don’t know, ask someone who does; and if you know, send Pastor Holowach a card!

**Readings for next Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, the Third Sunday after the Epiphany:**  
Introit Ps. 113:1-8; Psalm 62; Jonah 3:1-5; 1 Corinthians 7:29-35; Mark 1:14-20.

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*This week at Christ Lutheran Church: January 15 – January 21*

<b>Friday</b>	<b>6:30 a.m.</b>	Bible & Breaky
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	Sunday School for all ages
	<b>10:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Divine Service – The Third Sunday after the Epiphany</b>



**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
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