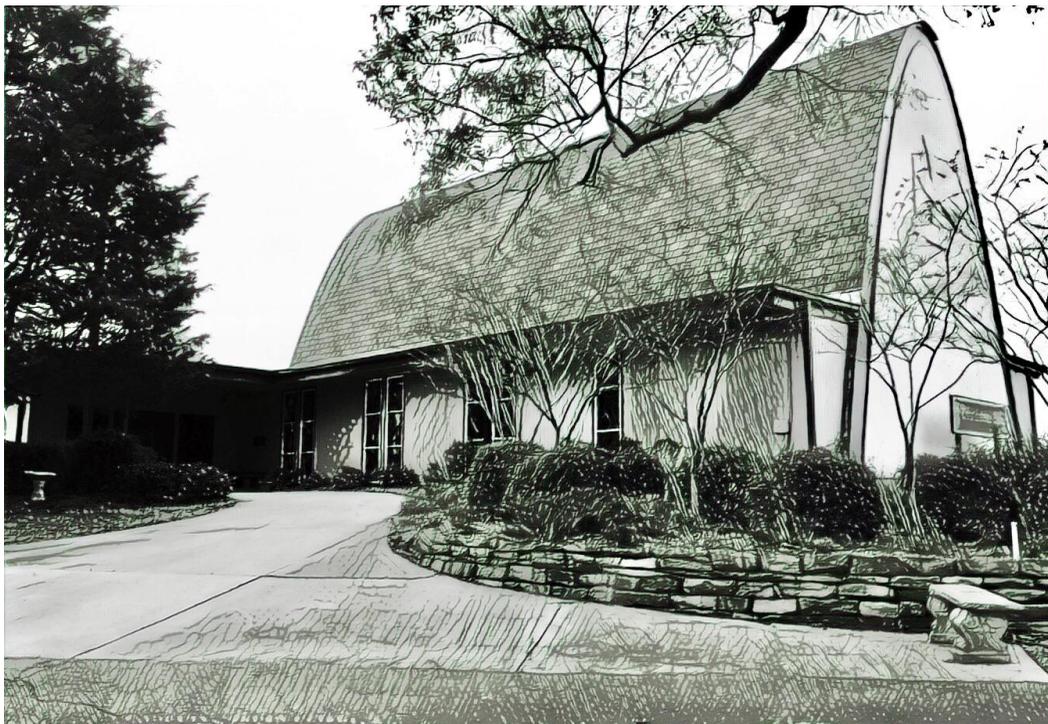


CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH



Rev. George Fields, Pastor

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

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

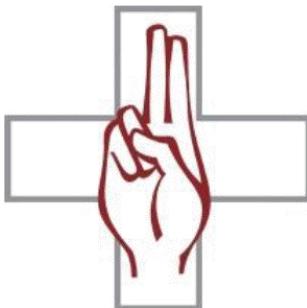
4423 I-55 North, Jackson, MS 39206-6102 – (601) 366-2055

www.ChristLutheranJacksonMS.org

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

+ January 25, 2026 +

“Ye My People”



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:

“When the world shook and the sun was wiped out of heaven, it was not at the crucifixion, but at the cry from the cross: the cry which confessed that God was forsaken of God. And now let the revolutionists choose a creed from all the creeds and a god from all the gods of the world, carefully weighing all the gods of inevitable recurrence and of unalterable power. They will not find another god who has himself been in revolt. Nay (the matter grows too difficult for human speech), but let the atheists themselves choose a god. They will find only one divinity who ever uttered their isolation; only one religion in which God seemed for an instant to be an atheist.”

—G.K. Chesterton, *Orthodoxy*

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 Communion¹, and that these are means by which He forgives our sins², 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 meal³. 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 faith⁴, you are still welcome to come forward and cross your arms to indicate that you would like a blessing.

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

² Matthew 26:28; 1 John 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19

³ 1 Corinthians 11:28-32

⁴ 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

Jesus Sat With His Disciples

#932

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.**

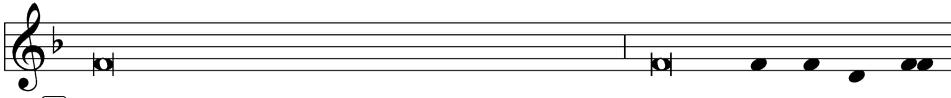
Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

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.



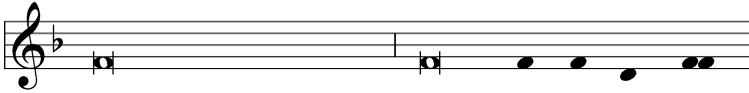
A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



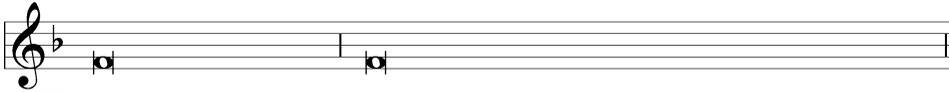
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



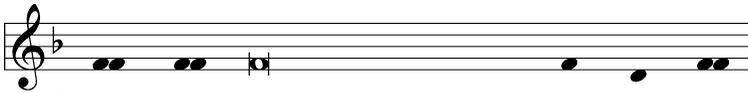
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C A - men.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; 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

Micah 6:1-8

Hear what the Lord says:

Arise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the Lord,
and you enduring foundations of the earth,
for the Lord has an indictment against his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

“O my people, what have I done to you?

How have I wearied you? Answer me!

For I brought you up from the land of Egypt
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.

O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised,
and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him,

wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. Therefore, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

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

Matthew 5:1-12

P The Holy ✠ Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated

OFFICE HYMN

A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth

#434

SERMON

The God Who Opened Not His Mouth

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

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: **John Garner, Jennifer Haggard, Jim Hansford, Elmer Held, Joseph Holleman, Sharon Holleman, Elaine Johnson, Alex Kates, Linda Lau, Roger Lindsey, Richard Mullis, Donald Ochs, Kristen Shavlik, John Samuel Smathers, Leslie Snodgrass, Steve Spinks, Jean Sprecher, Eloise Springer, Janie Story, Nicole Tatum, Dean Walker, Alex Willis, Barbara Zeigler;**

For those who are ill or distressed: **Jenalee Adams, Blair Alford, Layne Bagley, Shirley Bagley, W.L. Bagley, Sarah Bowman, Deloris Brent, Martha Brown, Nathan Brown, Hunter Burkhalter, Wayne Burt, Bobby Carroll, Joan Cowards, Belinda Cowards-Gonzales, Robert (Andy) Evers, Tahlia Ferderer, George Fields, Parker Haines, Dan Hansen, Tim Hansen, Faye Hartman, Valerie Henderson, Sharon Holleman, April Ann Hubmann, Joslyn Jones, Steve Kennedy, John Koster, Katelyn Lawing, Paul McCullough, Jerry McIntyre, Edlia Miller, Elaine Monaghan, Don Ochs, Pippin Family, Deborah-Annette Ried, Jon Sandberg, Noah Schultz, Jonnie Pearl Smiley, Bob Smith, Sherri Smith, Deborah Springer, Eloise Springer, Gary Stoeckmann, Dana Taquino, Lesley Tatum, Nicole Tatum, Donny Thomas, Nikki Vines, Leonard Watson, Cynthia Widlitze, Barbara Zeigler;**

For college and graduate students: **Sara Fields, James Hansford;**

For military servants and their families: **Glen Hansford, James Hansford, Bill Nelson, Steven Tatum;**

This week's prayer family: **Allen & Sabrina Goodlett** 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.



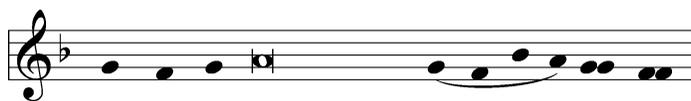
C And al - so with you.



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

#957

Matthew 6:9-13

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



DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

All who are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and have introduced themselves to one of the pastors are welcome to partake of the Holy Communion at Christ Lutheran. If you have not spoken to a 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

Not All the Blood of Beasts	#431
Upon the Cross Extended	#453
Through Jesus' Blood and Merit	#746

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.

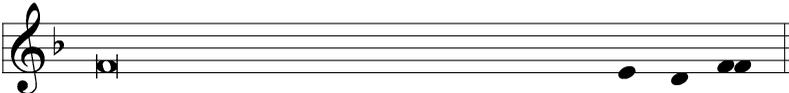
O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your 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

O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth

#834

Acknowledgments

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Serving Today:

Pastor: Rev. George Fields

Acolyte: William Held

Interpreter: Charlie Warren

Altar Guild: Sabrina Goodlett

Elder: Eric Held

Organist: Sr. Sara Fields

Cantor: James Hansford

Ash Wednesday Services: Epiphany is soon drawing to a close, for the penitential season of Lent begins on **Wednesday, February 18**. We will observe Ash Wednesday with a prayer office and the imposition of ashes at 7:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Come pray with us as we reflect on our Lord’s suffering for our sake.

Midweek Matins: No better way to begin the day than in prayer and God’s Word! Join us on Wednesday mornings as we pray Matins together at 7:30 a.m.

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!

Spring LifeLight Has Commenced! Come study with us on Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. as we study 1 & 2 Peter!

Readings for next Sunday, February 8th, the Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany:

Introit Ps. 119:9-16; Psalm 112:1-9; Isaiah 58:3-9a ; 1 Corinthians 2 :1-12 ; Matthew 5 :13-20.

This week at Christ Lutheran Church: February 2 – February 8

Tuesday	6:15 p.m.	Elders Meeting
Wednesday	7:30 a.m.	Matins
Thursday	9:30 a.m.	LifeLight
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School for all ages
	10:30 a.m.	Divine Service – Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany



Issues, Etc.™

Christ-Centered Cross-Focused Talk Radio

YOUR LIFELINE TO THE LUTHERAN WORLDVIEW... You can listen to in-depth teachings on interesting subjects like:

A Christian View of Leisure, Remember the Sabbath Day, Bioethics for Nurses, The Movie “Knives Out: Wake up Dead Man”, and more...

Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show produced by Lutheran Public Radio and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. You can listen to what you want when you want at www.issuesetc.org. Simply click on “Listen”, choose “On Demand”, then select from the vast array of speakers and topics available in the archives.

KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE



Why was it so important for Jesus to be born as a man?

Jesus had a big job ahead of Him when He was born! If you really think about it, Jesus was born to die on the cross to pay for the sins of the whole world. But before He died, He lived a perfect life under God's Law. That means that during His entire life, Jesus never sinned. Not even once! As a man, Jesus took the place of mankind under the Law and fulfilled it. That means that for every time we failed to keep the Law, Christ succeeded!

Why was it important for Jesus to be true God?

It would take more than an ordinary man to suffer and die on the cross to pay for the sins of the whole world. Jesus had to be true God so that He could live a perfect life and fulfill the requirements of the Law, die a perfect death on the cross, and rise from the dead victorious over sin, death and the devil! All of this He did in obedience to the Father and out of complete and total love for us. Through faith, the Holy Spirit delivers all of the great things Jesus won for us in His death and resurrection!



Parents: Review the Ten Commandments with your child (Ex. 20:1–17). Discuss the commandments and be sure to point out just how often we fail to keep them. Remind your child that because of Christ's perfect sacrifice on the cross, in faith we have the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation.





CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
4423 I-55 North, Jackson, MS 39206-6102
Church phone: (601) 366-2055
www.ChristLutheranJacksonMS.org