**Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**

**February 4, 2024**

**9:30am**



**Christ Lutheran Church**

6500 E. Stearns Street

Long Beach, California 90815

Phone 562-598-2433

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[www.clplb.com](http://www.clplb.com)

**Yesterday’s celebration was very special. Everyone’s contributions to making it that way, are so greatly appreciated.**

**Planning: Roger Halvorson, Kim Philips, Rebecca Green, Lisa Cottrell, Stephanie Murray, Doug Holdhusen, DJ Trujillo, Claudia Fitzpatrick, and Kim Croes.**

**Property Preparation: Shannon and Matthew Timney and Robin Black**

**Sanctuary Preparation: Claudia Fitzpatrick and Robin Black**

**Welcome to worship! We’re glad you’re here!**

To assist in your worship:

**bold** print means we respond together

**\*** meansstand as you are able,

+ you may make the sign of the cross should you so desire.

**TODAY’S worship THEME**

In Isaiah the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars also strengthens the powerless. So in Jesus’ healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service (diakonia). Like Simon’s mother-in-law, we are lifted up and healed to serve. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

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**PRELUDE**  Roger Halvorson

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth,

wind sweeping over the waters. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our rock and refuge, **we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now.

In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God’s beloved. **Amen.**

**\*GATHERING SONG** *Beauty for Brokenness (verses 1, 2, 4, 5)*

**Verse 1**

Beauty for brokenness Hope for despair

Lord in Your suff'ring world This is our prayer

Bread for the children Justice joy peace

Sunrise to sunset Your kingdom increase

**Chorus**

God of the poor Friend of the weak

Give us compassion we pray Melt our cold hearts

Let tears fall like rain Come change our love

From a spark to a flame

**Verse 2**

Shelter for fragile lives Cures for their ills

Work for the craftsmen Trade for their skills

Land for the dispossessed Rights for the weak

Voices to plead the cause Of those who can't speak

**(Chorus)**

**Verse 4**

Rest for the ravaged earth Oceans and streams

Plundered and poisoned Our future our dreams

Lord end our madness Carelessness greed

Make us content with The things that we need

**(Chorus)**

**Verse 5**

Lighten our darkness Breathe on this flame

Until Your justice Burns brightly again

Until the nations Learn of Your ways

Seek Your salvation And bring You their praise

**(Chorus)**

**\*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.**

**\*pRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray together. *A brief silence***. Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**WORD**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE** *After this time, children will be invited to Sunday school. They will return during the passing of the peace.*

**CHOIR ANTHEM** *Rock of Ages* Chancel Choir

**SCRIPTURE READING** 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 PewBible New Testament Pg. 179

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

**RESPONSIVE PSALM** Psalm 147:1-11 PewBible Old Testament Pg. 645

 Praise the LORD! How good it is to sing praises to our God; for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.  
 **2The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel**.  
 3He heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds.  
**4He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names.** 5Great is our LORD, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.  
**6The LORD lifts up the downtrodden; he casts the wicked to the ground.** 7Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre.  
**8He covers the heavens with clouds, prepares rain for the earth, makes grass grow on the hills.** 9He gives to the animals their food, and to the young ravens when they cry.  
**10His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor his pleasure in the speed of a runner;** 11but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love.

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**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *Listen, God is Calling ELW #513*

**\*GOSPEL** Mark 1:29-39 Pew Bible New Testament Pg.36

The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 1st chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The reading concludes: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON** Pastor Nikki Fielder

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**\*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**

**INSTALLATION OF CHURCH COUNCIL**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God’s blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**\*SHARING OF PEACE**

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

**OFFERTORY** Roger Halvorson



**\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE** *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light ELW #815*

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**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray together: **Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you.**

**In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

**MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

**\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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…

We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**\*SONG OF THANKSGIVING** *Holy, Holy, Holy*

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**\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

…with this bread and cup, we remember our Lord’s passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

**\*LORD’S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.** **Amen.**

**DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

We believe that this is Jesus' table. All are welcome and invited to commune.  We serve communion by “intinction”; receive the bread and dip it in the chalice of red wine. Currently we are offering individual communion cups as an alternative to intinction if you so desire. Both wine and grape juice (white) are offered in the tray. Gluten free bread is available; let your server know. Should you choose not to commune, please come forward to receive a blessing. Please cross your arms across your chest.

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

At Jesus’ table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

**lamb of god**

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**COMMUNION SONG** *On Eagle’s Wings ELW #787*

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**\*POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray together. **Giver of every gift, Christ’s body is our food, and we are Christ’s body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. Amen.**

**SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

**\*BLESSING**

God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you,

☩ bless you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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**\*DISMISSAL**

Go is peace.  You are God’s beloved. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** Roger Halvorson





**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF**

**Pastor**  Rev. Nicole Fielder, pastor@christlutheranlb.com

**Office Manager** Kim Croes, [officemanager@christlutheranlb.com](mailto:officemanager@christlutheranlb.com)

**Preschool Director** Lisa Clinton, info@clplb.com

**Interim Choir Director** Kim Philips, kimsings@msn.com

**Accompanist** Roger Halvorson

**A/V Technician** Brad Croes

**Missionary to Colombia** Linda Gawthorne

**It is our joy to worship with your whole family this morning!**

We encourage everyone of all ages and abilities to worship together. If you do need to take a "time out", please do so in the narthex (gathering space at the entry), and return to worship when you are ready. A changing table is located in the restroom off the narthex. Activity bags, filled with crayons, paper and storybooks, are available in the narthex. Please ask an usher if you need any assistance.

**Mission Statement**

Living by Christ’s example, we welcome, serve, and love all through God’s grace.

**Vision Statement**

Embracing the truth that God’s love and grace is for all, Christ Lutheran Church is a vibrant and active community spreading the good news through acceptance, action, and benevolence.

**Our Position**

Christ is ALIVE!

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