**First Sunday of Christmas**

**January 1, 2023**

**9:30am**



**Christ Lutheran Church**

6500 E. Stearns Street

Long Beach, California 90815

Phone 562-598-2433

www.christlutheranlb.com

Preschool 562-594-6117

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

**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**

From the beginning, through baptism, we are called Christian. We are “Christ-ened” at the font. Bearing Christ’s name, we share the same Father and are invited to address this parent intimately: Abba! Jesus bears our sins in humble obedience to the will of God. Today we pray that the mind of Christ, whose name we bear, would be our own. It is a good way to begin, again, another year.



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**GATHERING**

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

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** *O Come, All Ye Faithful #283*

A picture containing table

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**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, the Word made flesh, our life and our salvation.

**Amen.**

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God of life,

**you promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be messengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security. We nurture conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation. Have mercy on us. Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are reluctant, give us courage. Where we are cynical, restore our trust. Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you. Amen.**

Hear the good news: We are children of God and heirs of God’s promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In ☩ Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God.

**Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG** *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly #276*

**\*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.**

**\*canticle of praise**  *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice #288 ( vs.1-3)*

A sheet of music

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**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. *A brief silence***.** **O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**WORD**

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

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SCRIPTURE READING** Isaiah 63:7-9 PewBible Old Testament Pg.770

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

**PSALM (Responsive)** Psalm 148 PewBible Old Testament Pg.645

1Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!  
**2Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!** 3Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!  
**4Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!** 5Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded and they were created.  
**6He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.** 7Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,  
**8fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!** 9Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!  
 **10Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!** 11Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!  
 **12Young men and women alike, old and young together!** 13Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.  
**14He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the LORD!**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *Go Tell It on the Mountain #290 (vs 1-3)*

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**\*GOSPEL** Matthew 2:13-23 Pew Bible New Testament Pg. 2

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 2nd chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

**SERMON Pastor Laurie Arroyo**

**\*SERMON SONG** *Of the Father’s Love Begotten #295*

**\*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.**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ’s presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

*A brief silence.*

 …God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Pondering the mystery of eternal love made flesh in Christ Jesus, we commend all for whom we pray to the mercy of God. **Amen.**

**\*SHARING OF PEACE**

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

**OFFERTORY**

A sheet of music

Description automatically generated with medium confidence**\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE** *What Child is This #296 (vs 1-3)*

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. 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:

**\*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY** *Love Has Come #292***A sheet of music

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**\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Blessed are you, O God...

…For as often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes. **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

\***LORD’S PRAYER**

**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.**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace. **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.





**lamb of god**

Table

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**COMMUNION SONG** *The King of Love #502*

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**SENDING**

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

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**\*BLESSING**

God bless you and keep you,☩ Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts ,now and forever. **Amen.**

**\*SENDING** *Joy to the World #267*

**\*Dismissal**

Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim the good news.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**



**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF**

**Interim Pastor**  Rev. Laurie Arroyo, [pastor@christlutheranlb.com](mailto:pastor@christlutheranlb.com)

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

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

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

**Accompanist** Roger Halvorson

**Percussionist** Nathan Latiolait

**Missionary to Colombia** Linda Gawthorne

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

**CHILDCARE**

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.

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

*Christ Is Alive!*

**OUR VISION STATEMENT**

*Christ Lutheran Church is a community of believers committed to praising our Savior Jesus Christ. With his love, we reach out to those in need and welcome all with open hearts. Our worship dynamically combines, word, song and prayer to share God’s incredible message. Having faith in this, we go forth knowing that with God and the power of the Holy Spirit, anything is possible.*

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