

Blessed for Life
Sanctity of Life Sunday 2023 — Lutherans for Life
January 29, 2023

As We Gather - When Jesus appeared on the scene of human history, His coming was like the light of a new day. Isaiah had prophesied a day would come filled with joy as at the harvest or when victors divide spoils. But daylight also reveals problems covered by darkness, like the divisions at the Church in Corinth, as Paul writes. Jesus' light not only reveals, but it also forgives, heals, and enlivens. People brought the sick and demon-possessed to our Lord, and the first four disciples jumped at the opportunity to follow Him. What ills shall we bring to worship today for resolution? Sins requiring forgiveness, gloom needing joy, divisions seeking reconciliation? Jesus came into human history to die and rise for us; today He comes through Word and Sacrament in grace and mercy to meet our deepest needs. Let us rejoice in the light of God's forgiveness, mercy, and love.

Offering and Registry of Worship Cards: (Sunday Only) Please fill out a Registry of Worship Card found in the pew racks. We ask that you print the names of every person in your family, indicating if they take communion. One side of the card is for members and the other side for guests. As the offering is collected, pass the cards to the center aisle so our ushers can gather them.

Saturday Worship: Offerings and Worship Cards will be received in the offering plates at the rear of the church either upon entering or when leaving. Thank you for your gift to the work of the Lord.

About Protecting the Healthy: To protect yourself and others from COVID-19 and other infectious respiratory diseases, individuals may choose to mask at any time. Appropriate hand washing by everyone is encouraged. People with symptoms of an infectious illness are highly encouraged to stay home. Symptoms include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. Thank you for helping to keep everyone healthy as we receive God's gifts in worship.

GENERALLY, BE MINDFUL, NOT FEARFUL.

Prelude and Meditation: Before worship we talk to God (see prayers on page 308 in the hymnal); during worship God talks to us; after worship we talk to one another.

Prelude:

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
The Greeting and Sharing of Peace *(stand)*

Hymn of Invocation:

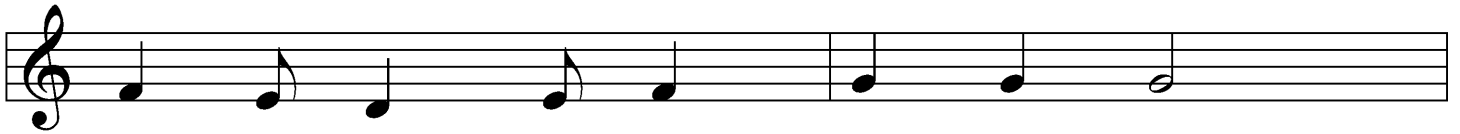
All You Works of God, Bless the Lord

LSB 930

△ Please stand after a brief interlude



1 All you works of God, bless the Lord!
2 Sing, you sun and you moon a - bove,
3 Frost of win - ter with song so cold,
4 Hills and moun - tains, now sing His worth,



All you an - gels, now bless the Lord;
Stars of heav - en, now sing His love;
Dews of sum - mer, your song un - fold;
All you green things that grow on earth;

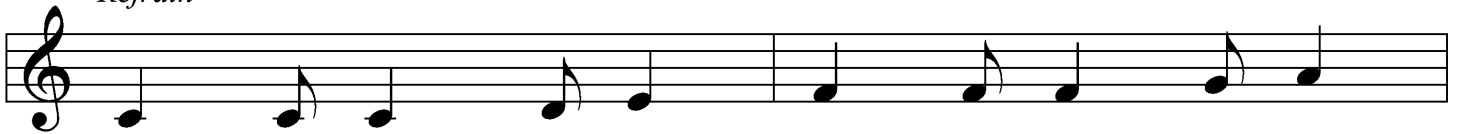


Come, you heav - ens and pow'rs that be,
Dew and show - ers, you winds that blow,
Light and dark - ness, you day and night,
Seas and riv - ers, you springs and wells,



Praise the Lord and His maj - es - ty:
Heat and fire, you ice and snow:
Clouds of thun - der, you light - nings bright:
Beasts and cat - tle, you birds and whales:

Refrain



Raise your voic - es high, praise and mag - ni - fy,

All you works of God, bless the Lord!

Raise your voices high, praise and magnify,

All you works of God, bless the Lord!

5 Come, humanity, sing along,
 Sing, you people of God, a song;
 Priests and servants, your Lord now bless,
 Join, you spirits and souls at rest: Refrain

△ 6 Bless the Lord, all you pure of heart;
 All you humble, His praise impart;
 God the Father and Son adore,
 Bless the Spirit forevermore! Refrain

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

Tune: Jamaican; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–80

Text: © 1995 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000852

Tune: © 1975 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000852

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

P I said, "O Lord, be gracious to me; heal me, for I have sinned against you!" *Psalm 41:4*

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean.

P His heart gathers iniquity; when he goes out, he tells it abroad. *Psalm 41:6*

C We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

P Even my close friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me. *Psalm 41:9*



And aid my tongue to bless His name Whose fa - vors are di - vine.
For - got - ten in un - thank - ful - ness And with - out prais - es die!
'Tis He that heals thy sick - ness - es And makes thee young a - gain.
He that re - deemed my soul from hell Hath sov - 'reign pow'r to save.

5 He fills the poor with good;
He gives the suff'ers rest.
The Lord hath judgments for the proud
And justice for th'oppressed.

6 His wondrous works and ways
He made by Moses known,
But sent the world His truth and grace
By His belovèd Son.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748 Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731–76 Text and tune: Public domain

Collect

P Almighty and everlasting Father, You give Your children many blessings even though we are undeserving. In every trial and temptation, grant us steadfast confidence in Your loving-kindness and mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 1:26–31a

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

²⁷So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.

²⁸And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." ²⁹And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. ³¹And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Ephesians 1:3–10

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:1–12

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

²And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

⁶"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

⁷"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

⁸"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

¹⁰"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice 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.**

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He 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.

Hymn of the Day:

In Christ There Is No East or West

LSB 653



1 In Christ there is no east or west,
 2 With God there is no tribe or race;
 3 So, brothers, sisters, praise His name
 4 Join hands, disciples of the faith,
 5 In Christ now meet both east and west;



In Him no south or north, But one great fel - low -
 In Him we all are one. He loves us as His
 Who died to set us free From sin, di - vi - sion,
 What - e'er your race may be; Who serves my Fa - ther
 In Him meet south and north. All Chris - tian souls are



ship of love Through - out the whole wide earth.
 chil - dren through Our faith in His dear Son.
 hate, and shame, From spite and en - mi - ty!
 as His child Is sure - ly kin to me.
 one in Him Through - out the whole wide earth.

Text (sts. 1, 4-5): John Oxenham, 1852-1941, alt.; (st. 2): Mark A. Jeske, 1952; (st. 3): Michael A. Perry, 1942-96

Tune: African American spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1866-1949

Text (st. 2): © 1993 Mark A. Jeske; (st. 3): © 1982 The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000852

Text (sts. 1, 4-5) and tune: Public domain

Sermon:

“Blessed for Life”

Gathering of Our Tithes and Offerings (*Sunday Only*)

Registry of Worship Cards (*Sunday Only*) – *Please Pass your completed cards to the center aisle.*

Offertory: (*Sunday Only*)

Prayers

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
- P** Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Heavenly Father, grant us all humility to recognize the sanctity of every human life You have created, redeemed, and called as Your own precious treasure and to receive each neighbor as gift and privilege. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Let us speak Your grace and show Your forgiveness to any whose hearts have been broken by the abortion of their own children or by participation in any other violence against the sanctity of life, that they may turn to You in trust. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. By our witness and assistance, deliver from death, deception, and despair those scheduled for abortion, those awaiting adoption, those experiencing surprise pregnancy, those facing terminal diagnosis, those considering suicide or euthanasia, and those endangering embryonic human beings. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. In our time, in our land, and the world over, bring an end to abortion, embryocide, physician-assisted suicide, and all pressures to use death as a solution to suffering. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. Guide the minds and hands of medical professionals to serve as instruments of Your saving and healing care and to resist the temptation to hasten the end of any human life; and especially do we implore Your visitation and intervention to relieve the afflictions of our brothers and sisters, *[names]*. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Multiply unto us the celebrations of body, family, and length of days that we rejoice with gratitude to You for these undeserved and undivided delights; and especially do we praise Your name for *[birthdays and anniversaries among our number]*. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Provide and preserve lawmakers and officials over us who safeguard the sanctity of every human life in public policy and practice, and move us to support and encourage them. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Open our ears and loosen our tongues to advocate for every neighbor's welfare with courage and compassion, and work calm and consensus through our respectful dialogue and enthusiastic servanthood. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great. Cheer our spirits with forgiveness, faith, and fellowship, until by repentance and resurrection we enter into everlasting life before You, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Preface

LSB 177

P The Lord be with you.



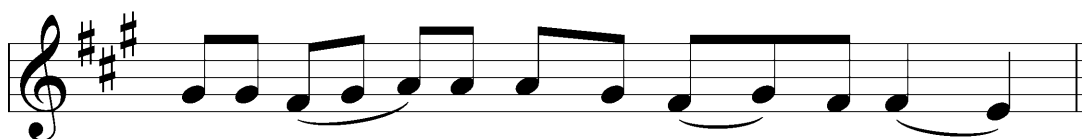
C And al-so with you.

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.

Proper Preface

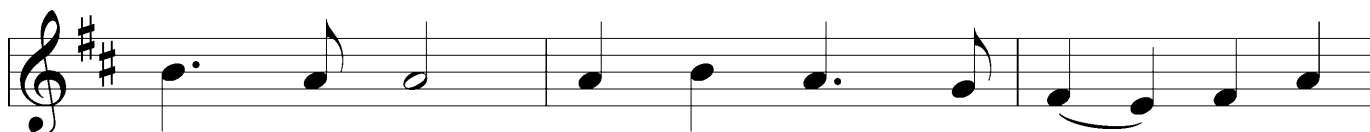
P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for by His entering the kingdom of this world to die and rise on our behalf, He has conquered death and opened to us the Kingdom of heaven. Through Him, You have shown the fullness of Your grace and glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus

LSB 178



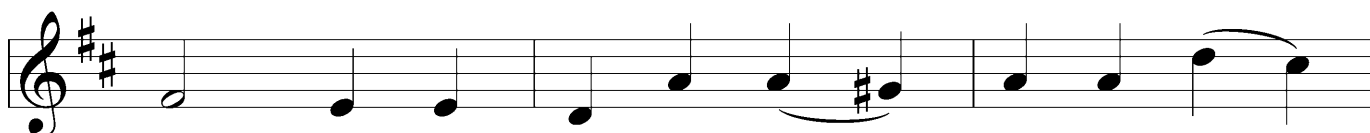
C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of



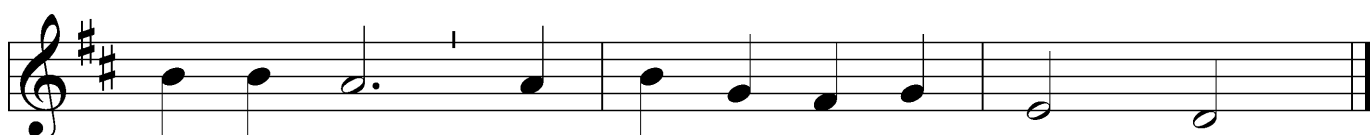
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your



glo - ry. 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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 178

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.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

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."

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

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.

Pax Domini

LSB 180

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

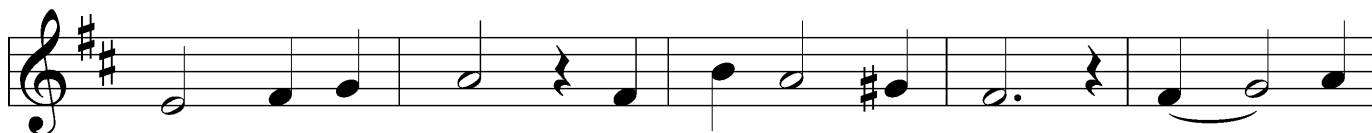
LSB 180



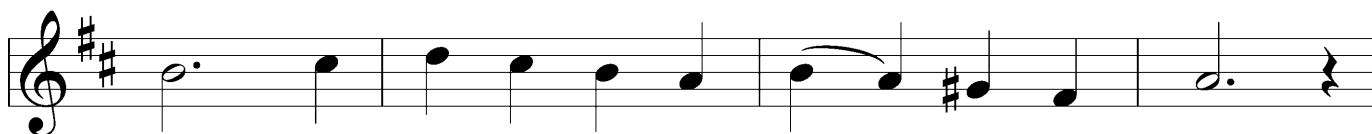
C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



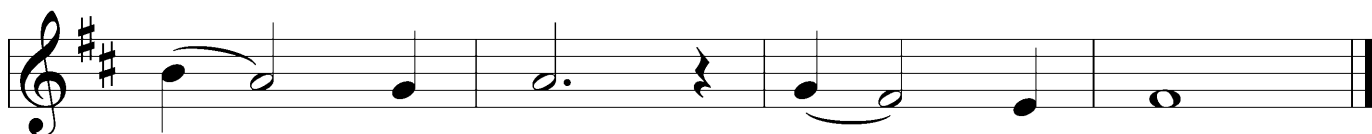
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of



God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

Distribution:

Distribution Hymns (Sunday Only)

LSB 624 **The Infant Priest Was Holy Born**

LSB 740 **I Am Jesus' Little Lamb**

LSB 744 **Amazing Grace**

sts. 1-5

Thank the Lord

LSB 181



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what



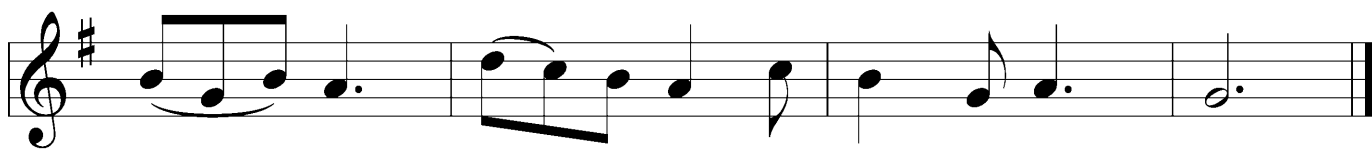
He has done. Let ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re -



joice and proud - ly bear His name. He re-calls His prom-is-



es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks -



giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Benediction

LSB 183

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.

Saturday

Elder Steve Rosane
Lector Geri Slaten/Rick Smith
Audio Lee Crapo/Robin Fox

Sunday

Elder Steve Rosane
Lector
Greeter Barbara Joost
Audio Maria Hazzard
Video Video TD: Kris Welch
GFX/ Stream: Robin Fox
Altar Guild Debbie and Rick Smith

LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

Pastor Pastor Christopher Hazzard
Organist Carol Ceaglske
Elder Fred Sterns
Lector P.J. Nunez
Greeter Joann Shepker
Audio Kyle Welch
Video Video TD: Kris Welch
GFX: / Stream: Robin Fox
Altar Guild Rita and George Czanko

ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS FROM LAST WEEK

Saturday Worship Attendance 26
Sunday Worship Attendance 125
Envelope and Loose Plate Offerings \$2,902.37
Simply Giving/Vanco \$0
Paypal Offerings \$0
Website (ShareFaith) \$125.00
Total of Offerings Received \$3,027.37
Misc. Income, Memorials and Special Gifts \$708.00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH - Epiphany IV – The coming of Jesus as Christ shows the way of the Lord: He exalts the lowly instead of abandoning or executing them (1 Corinthians 1:27-28). We ought neither encourage nor invite expectant mothers and fathers to sacrifice the fruit of their bodies for righting their wrongs (Micah 6:7). Christ Jesus has already become that redemption (1 Corinthians 1:30), and such compassion to the neighbor lifts us up to stand alongside God Himself (Micah 6:8).

FLOWER SPONSOR– Debbie Smith, in memory of her mother, Nancy Door.

BULLETIN SPONSOR – No Bulletin Sponsor this week.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR (SUNDAY) – Team 4 is serving today; team 5 will serve next week. Everyone is invited. There is no charge and a freewill offering is voluntary.

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED MONDAY –The church office will be closed Monday, January 30th.

BABY BOTTLE DRIVE – We are participating in the Baby Bottle Drive for Options for Women Pregnancy Help Clinic. Please take a baby bottle home and fill it with loose change, bills, or a check made out to Options for Women. All bottles are due in by February 15th.

MOVIE NIGHT – Movie Night is this Saturday, February 4th, @ 6:30 pm. The movie is Part 2 – Unbroken Path to Redemption. There will be popcorn and other snacks. There is no charge for the movie or food, and a free-will offering will be accepted for the Fellowship charity of the month (VISTE).

OUTREACH MEETING – The Outreach Committee will meet Tuesday, February 7th at 5:30 pm.

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY - Souper Bowl Sunday is February 12th . Please sign-up to bring a crock pot of soup. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. There is no charge for the meal and a freewill offering will be accepted.

FASHION SHOW - Mary Martha is hosting a Fashion Show on Saturday, February 18th in the Fellowship Hall from 1-4pm! The event will feature fashions from Tiki Boutique, Main & Monroe Boutique and LulaRoe. The show is to benefit "Top Buttons," a ministry to help girls and women in need to dress for success! Hors d'oeuvres will be served! Cost is \$5! We will be selling tickets after the worship service on Sunday mornings. Everyone is welcomed and bring a friend!

SPAGHETTI DINNER - Mary Martha will be holding a Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, March 11 from 4-7 pm. We will have both sit down, take out and drive up options available! The cost is \$10 per person /\$5 for children 12 and under. The meal

includes spaghetti with meat sauce, salad, roll, dessert and a drink. We will be selling tickets after Sunday worship service! Our mission for this event is Trinity Church Orlando Comfort Dogs ministry.

RUMMAGE SALE - The Outreach committee and Mary Martha will be holding a rummage sale in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, March 25. Please start gathering the treasures you would like to donate! Collection times will be posted at a later date.

FLOWER CHART FOR 2023 - The 2023 Flower Chart is on the Bulletin Board in the Narthex. You can sign up to place flowers in the Altar area in honor of someone, birthdays and anniversaries or any other occasions. Please put your name and what occasion the flowers are for, so it can be noted in the Bulletins. If you have any questions call Barbara Miller 863-858-5790

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP – If you are a seasonal visitor and would be interested in an Associate Membership with Christ Lutheran, please see an Elder.

CHURCH DIRECTORY – For those that are not aware, our church member directory is now available online. Please see the flyer sheets in the narthex for more information or email Kim Kaniecki at stewardship@clclakeland.org.

NAMETAGS – We would like to encourage all our members to please wear their nametags to church. If you can't find your nametag or don't have one, please sign-up for one on the bulletin board in the Narthex of the church.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER- 1 Corinthians 1:18 – “Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?” God's ways are certainly not the world's ways, including the way God tells us to manage the resources He's given to us. The world says, “hold on, hold back and gather up.” Jesus says to store up treasure in heaven where moth and rust do not destroy and where no thief breaks in to steal. Whose way do you think is best? What is wiser: the wisdom of the financial gurus or the foolishness of God?

