Sanctity of Life Sunday January 26, 2025

Life Shines in Darkness

As We Gather - Jesus Christ has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light. (2Timothy 1:10) In him was life, and the life was the light of all humankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. (John 1:4-5) Come out of the shadows and into the shine. Rejoice like Lutherans and embrace the sanctity of every human life!

Offering and Registry of Worship Cards: 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.

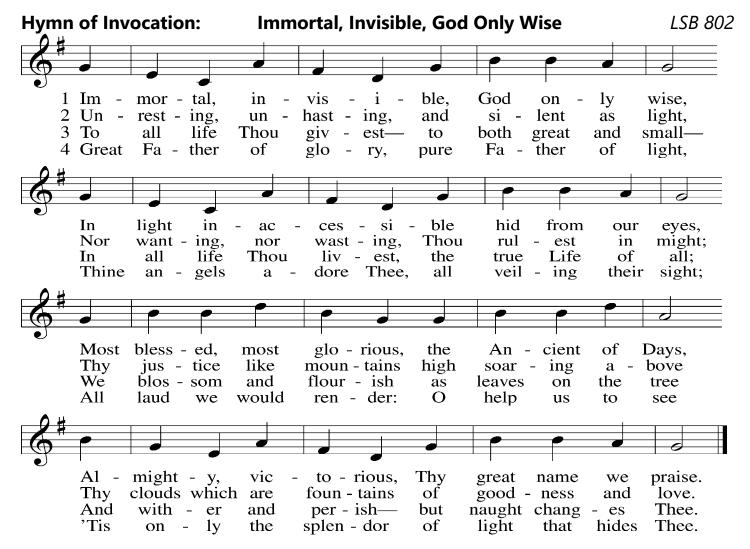
About Protecting the Healthy: To protect yourself and others from COVID-19 and other infectious respiratory diseases, individuals may choose to mask at any time. Appropriate hand washing by everyone is encouraged. People with symptoms of an infectious illness are highly encouraged to stay home. Symptoms 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)



Text: W. Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt. Tune: Welsh

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Invocation

- In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

- The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. *Romans 13:12*
- God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. 1 John 1:5
- P And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. *John 3:19*
- You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence. *Psalm 90:8*

- If your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! *Matthew 6:23*
- I will bear the indignation of the Lord because I have sinned against him, until he pleads my cause and executes judgment for me. He will bring me out to the light; I shall look upon his vindication. *Micah 7:9*
- Who among you fears the Lord and obeys the voice of his servant? Let him who walks in darkness and has no light trust in the name of the Lord and rely on his God. *Isaiah 50:10*

Our Savior Christ Jesus has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light. 2 Timothy 1:10

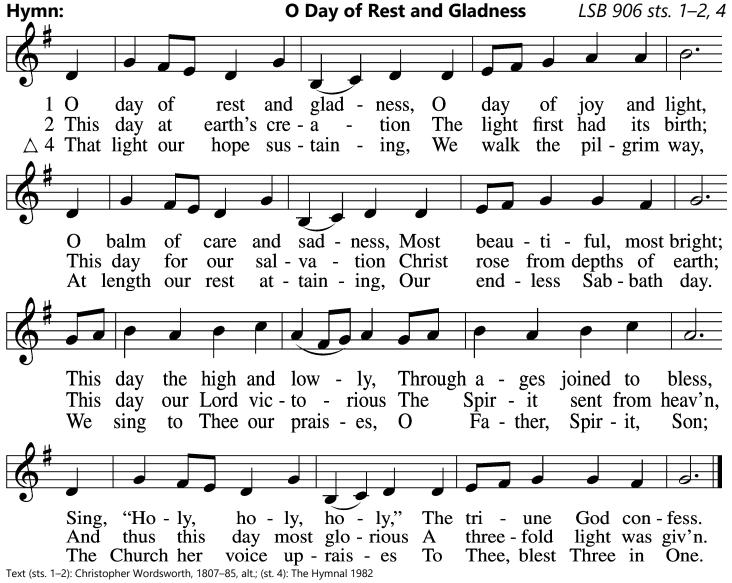
As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Introit

Psalm 27:1-2, 5-6, 13-14

- **P** The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
- The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
- P When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh,
- my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall.
- P For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;
- he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.
- P And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me,
- and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord.
- P I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the Lord
- in the land of the living!
- P Wait for the Lord;
- De strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord! Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.



Tune: Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Hofkapelle, 1784, Württemberg

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Collect

P O God of all grace, You sent Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to bring life and immortality to light. We give You thanks that by His death He destroyed the power of death and by His resurrection He opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Strengthen us in the confidence that because He lives, we shall live also, and that neither death nor life nor things present nor things to come will be able to separate us from Your love, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. ³You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. ⁴For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶For to us a child is born. to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

- **L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Epistle Ephesians 5:6–14

⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷Therefore do not associate with them; ⁸for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

"Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

- **I** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Stand

Holy Gospel John 1:1–14

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

G Glory to You, O Lord.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

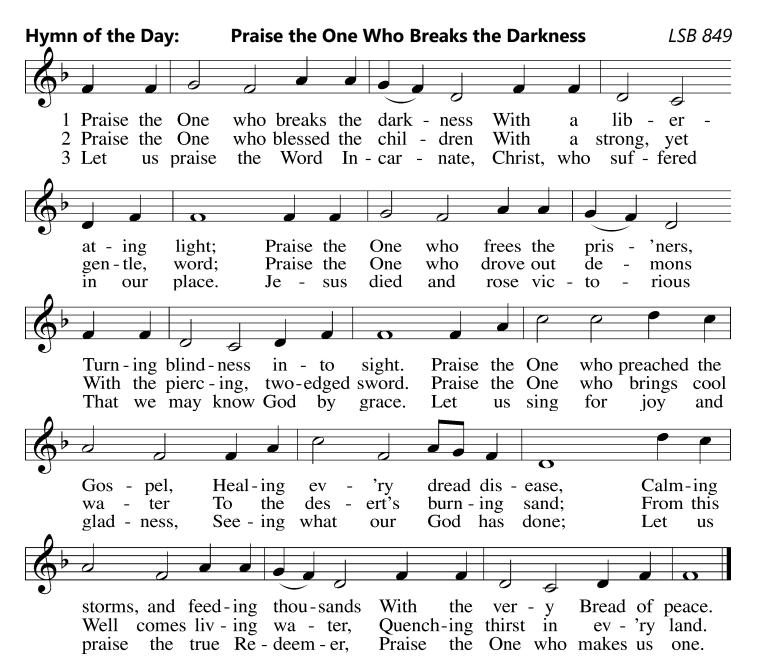
I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Children's Sermon



Text: Rusty Edwards, 1955

Tune: The Sacred Harp, 1844, Philadelphia

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Tune: Public domain

Sermon:

Life Shines in Darkness
John 1:1–14

Stand

Prayer of the Church

- Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
 - O Lord, our Heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, the fruit of Your Spirit is love. Grant us to know that You have made all humankind for relationship and community and grant us to receive both our neighbor's life and our own as gift and privilege. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- The fruit of Your Spirit is joy. Your Son has come among us in suffering and resurrection that we may find delight in You and in each other. By the blessings that come from sharing life together, stir us to bear burdens and meet needs for one another. Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer.
- The fruit of Your Spirit is peace. Let the authorities of our people respect the sanctity of every human life and let the laws of our land reflect it. Drive away all complacency and cowardice from us that we may undertake civic action and public service to secure the welfare of the vulnerable. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- The fruit of Your Spirit is patience. Visit with the presence and power of Your Son any who experience surprise pregnancy, terminal diagnosis, infertility, or any other affliction. For His sake relieve quickly that they recover completely and strengthen them to wait upon Your good and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- The fruit of Your Spirit is kindness. Work repentance, forgiveness, and healing in the hearts of those broken by the abortion of their own children or any other sin against the sanctity of human life. Keep us from ever viewing death as a solution to difficulty and put our trust in Your words and ways. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.

- The fruit of Your Spirit is goodness. Remove the evils of abortion, abuse, abandonment, euthanasia, suicide, embryo destruction, discrimination, and all other violences from among us. Make us instead to abound as You do in charity, goodwill, and fellowship. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- The fruit of Your Spirit is faithfulness. Embolden us to give voice to the worth and purpose of every person, no matter what age, appearance, or ability, and to hold fast this Gospel confession even under opposition and ridicule. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- The fruit of Your Spirit is gentleness. Endow our witness with courage and compassion, that we speak the truth of God in humility and show the love of Christ in servanthood. Soften and reform the hearts that advocate or entertain immorality until they stand beside us as sisters and brothers. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- The fruit of Your Spirit is self-control. Move us to expose and expel all the works of darkness by beholding and belonging to Your Light, even Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the same Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Sit

Choir Anthem: (Sunday Only) "Lord, You Have Searched Me" Gathering of Our Tithes and Offerings (Sunday Only)

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

Stand

Preface LSB 177

P The Lord be with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



Proper Preface

It is 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 singing:

Sanctus LSB 178



Prayer of Thanksgiving

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.
- **A**men. 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:

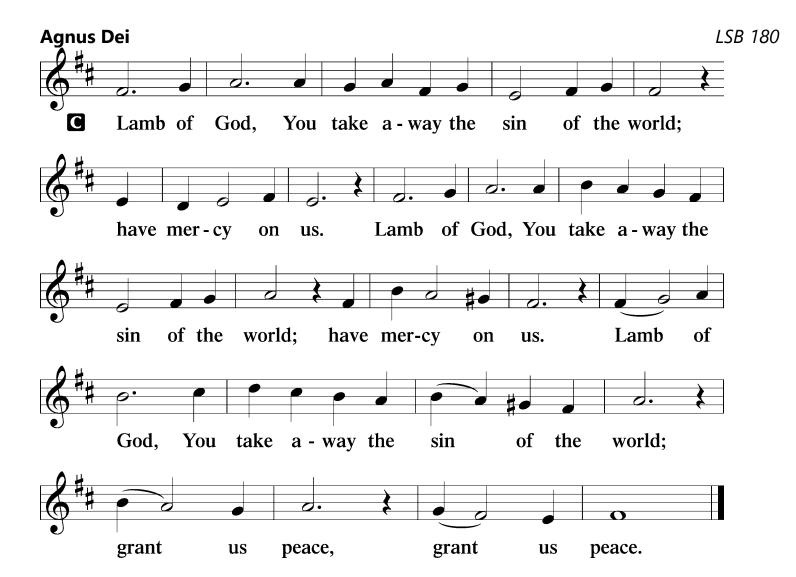
Lord's Prayer

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.





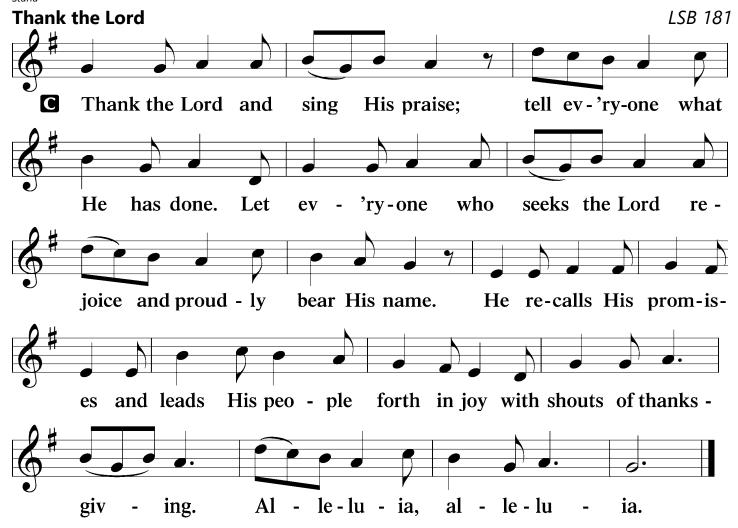
Distribution

Sit

Distribution Hymns (Sunday Only)

LSB 411 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light
LSB 412 The People That in Darkness Sat sts. 1–5
LSB 374 Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

Stand



Post-Communion Collect (Saturday)

- **P** Let us pray together.
- I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

(Sunday)

P 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 Amen.

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.





Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926-2024

Tune: Irish

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Postlude:

Acknowledgments

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LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor	Pastor Christopher Hazzard
Organist	Elena Miraztchiyska
Saturday	
Elder	
Lector	Gerie Slaten/Carlos Orellana
Audio	Robin Fox
Sunday	
Elder	Fred Sterns
Lector	
Greeter	Bob and Cheryl Langanke
Audio	Maria Hazzard
Video	Video TD: Josiah Hazzard
	GFX: / Stream: Cheryl Erwin
Altar Guild	Cheryl Erwin and Charlene Rosane

LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

Pastor	Pastor Christopher Hazzard
Organist	Pat Calhoon
Elder	
Lector	
Greeter	
Audio	Kim Kaniecki
Video	Video TD: Kris Welch
	GFX: / Stream: Roland Feickert
Altar Guild	Helen Borgwardt and Gwen Snook

ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS FROM LAST WEEK

Saturday Worship Attendance	23
Sunday Worship Attendance	
Envelope and Loose Plate Offerings	
Simply Giving/Vanco	
Paypal Offerings	
Website (ShareFaith)	
Total of Offerings Received	\$0
Misc. Income, Memorials and Special Gifts	\$C

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH - The Apostle Paul involved Gentile Titus in Christian ministry to embody how the Gospel doesn't discriminate. So confinement to mother's womb will not disqualify anyone from worth: Jesus is Lord there, too (Psalm 71:6). And advanced age cannot undermine it either: He employs "elder" as an expression of respect (Titus 1:5-9). We dare not close the kingdom doors Almighty God has opened!

FLOWER SPONSOR – No Flower Sponsor this week.

BULLETIN SPONSOR – Dave and Lora Wacker are the Bulletin Sponsors this week.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR *(SUNDAY)* – Team 3 is serving today. Team 4 will serve next week. There is no charge and a freewill offering is voluntary. January freewill offerings will go to Orphan Grain Train.

ELDERS MEETING – The Elders will meet next Sunday, February 2nd, after service.

OPTIONS FOR WOMEN BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN – January 25th through March 2nd, we will have the Baby Bottle Drive for Options for Women pregnancy help clinic. Please take a bottle home and fill it with coins or cash as you can. Bottles should be returned to the church by Sunday, March 2nd.

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY – FEBRUARY 9th – Bring your favorite soup (to share) and a can or two of soup to benefit Adopt A Block. A sign-up sheet is on the Outreach bulletin board.

BASEBALL PARKING – Baseball Parking will be here soon! The first of 15 games is February 22nd. Please consider helping with this fun outreach fundraiser. We need about eight willing helpers for each game, three hours with a free lunch and you can

still get to the game if you want. Get a schedule from Cathy Sterns in the Narthex or call 989-657-2916.

HOT DOG CONCESSION STAND – SPRING TRAING – Now is the time to volunteer for the CLC Hot dog Concession Stand! Once again we will be selling quarter pound, all beef hot dogs, chips and water. February 22nd is our first game. We will need five (5) people in our stand. There is an average of three (3) games per week. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Sign your name, phone number and days you can help. We set up at 9-9:30, and will finish grilling around 1, and then we dismantle our concession site. Contacts are John Freer @ 863-660-6438 or Charlene Rosane @ 863-660-1689. This is a great way to meet people from all over the USA and even abroad. Also a good way for our fellowship to reach beyond the CLC grounds. Appreciate all your time and efforts, thank you in advance.

PURSE AND ACCESSORIES SALE - Ladies and Gentlemen, bring your Purses, wallets, jewelry and other accessories in for our Annual "Purse and Accessories Sale" on Sunday, March 2nd, after the Worship Service and during Fellowship time! A box will be placed in the narthex for you to place your items! If you have an item, too large, place it next to the box and we will take care of tucking it away for the sale! No shoes, please!

FASHION SHOW - Mary Martha will be hosting a Fashion Show on March 29th in the Fellowship Hall from 1-4 pm. The Fashions will be from Bungalow Boutique. The cost will be \$10 per person and hors d'oeuvres are included. Proceeds will benefit local ministries. Ticket sales will begin soon! If you are interested in modeling, please contact Charlotte @ 863-409-6270. Sizes that are available are XS- XL and a discount will be given to the models for items they purchase!

MARY MARTHA QUILTERS - CHANGED TO THURSDAY'S –Mary Martha Quilters meet each Thursday at 10am. All Ladies from the congregation are invited to come. You don't have to be a quilter or know how to sew as we need people who can cut, arrange, and tie.

ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORS FOR 2025 - The new Flower Chart has been posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. If you would like to sponsor altar flowers in the coming year, please write your name in the chart on the appropriate date. There is an instructional poster on the board next to the chart explaining what to do. The envelopes specially designated for your sponsor offering are in a pocket just below the Flower Chart.

ALTAR GUILD- HELP NEEDED - We are looking for two to four individuals willing to serve on a Communion service team -- men and couples also welcome! This is a low time-commitment role of roughly an hour combined each weekend for one month each year and a wonderful opportunity to serve God and church. Full training will be provided and completing a year of membership at Christ Lutheran Church is not a requirement. Please see Dawn Peters for more information.

HELP WANTED- The Church is in need of workers in several positions around the Church. These include Ushers, Offering Counters, Altar Guild, Lectors, Sound Board, Video Assistance, Elders (requires one year membership, and many other opportunities to serve. Please consider using your time and talents in some way here at Christ Lutheran.

ADOPT-A-BLOCK – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED– To reserve your spot on the team or if you have questions, please contact either Robin Fox or Pastor Chris.

TRUSTEE WORKDAY - The Trustee Workday is each Wednesday from 9am – 1pm. If you would like to help with the various needs of the church, come join us. A job, whether large or small can be found to help with. If you notice something you think needs attention, come let us know. Thanks for helping.

USED HEARING AIDS: Used hearing aids can be donated. Place them in the Munz mailbox in the church mailroom. Pastor Jerry Munz collects them and takes them to the Lakeland Hearing Center. If you want a tax receipt be sure to ask Pastor Jerry to get one for you.

DREAM CENTER VOLUNTEERS – Volunteers are needed to help check- in and sort items here at Christ Lutheran for the Dream Center. Please see or contact Robin Fox at 863-513-4774 to schedule a day and time to volunteer.

CHECK YOUR MAILBOX – Please check your mailbox in the narthex.

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 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 Cor. 12:16 – "And if the ear should say, 'Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,' that would not make it any less a part of the body." The Lord has called each of us individually and given each of us unique gifts. He has made our whole lives holy in our Baptism and has called us to a life together in the church, His body. You are a part of that body, and that body needs you and the gifts the Lord has given you. This is your holy calling from the Lord.

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

Tuesday	Adopt-A-Block
Wednesday	Dream Center @ Christ Lutheran
	Trustee Workday @ 9 am
	Private Communion 1:30 – 2:30 pm
	Jr. Confirmation
Thursday	Bible Study @ 10 am
	Mary Martha Quilters @ 10 am
Friday	Church Office closed, Pastor's Day Off
Saturday	Worship @ 5:30 pm
Sunday	Bible Study @ 8:30 am
	Worship @ 10 am
	Elders Meeting