

## CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

875 Sunflower Drive ~ DuBois, PA ~ (814) 371-2470

Rev. John Miller ~ Pastor

Rev. Amy Godshall-Miller ~ Pastor

Abbey Lutz, Family Ministry Coordinator

Chris Luckenbill ~ Organist & Choir Director

**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany ~ February 23, 2025 ~ 8:30**

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### **PRELUDE:**

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

### **CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS:**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

*The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness.*

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

**HYMN: Shine, Jesus, Shine**

**# 671**

## **GREETING:**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

P: God of compassion, keep before us the love you have revealed in your Son, who prayed even for his enemies; in our words and deeds help us to be like him through whom we pray, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen**

**ANTHEM: ARISE! SHINE!**

~ Choir

*Lily Brubaker, Pianist*

**CHILDRENS SERMON:**

**FIRST LESSON: Genesis 45:3-11, 15**

*Many years after being sold into slavery by his jealous brothers, Joseph reveals himself to them. Now the second-in-command in Egypt, Joseph reassures his brothers that God has used their evil intentions for good to preserve life during a devastating famine, and Joseph forgives them.*

A: The First Lesson is from the 45<sup>th</sup> chapter of Genesis.

Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

<sup>4</sup>Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. <sup>5</sup>And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. <sup>6</sup>For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. <sup>7</sup>God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. <sup>8</sup> So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. <sup>9</sup>Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down

to me, do not delay. <sup>10</sup>You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have.

<sup>11</sup>I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.” <sup>15</sup>And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

A: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50**

*In the Apostles' Creed, we speak of the "resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting." Using the metaphor of a planted seed and the story of Adam, Paul preaches passionately about the mystery of following Christ's perfect life into eternity.*

A: The Second Lesson is from the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter of 1 Corinthians.

But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" <sup>36</sup>Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. <sup>37</sup>And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. <sup>38</sup>But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

<sup>42</sup>So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. <sup>43</sup>It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. <sup>44</sup>It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. <sup>45</sup>Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. <sup>46</sup>But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. <sup>47</sup>The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. <sup>48</sup>As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. <sup>49</sup>Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

<sup>50</sup>What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION/THE RESPONSE:

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.

### GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 6:27-38

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>27</sup>“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, <sup>28</sup>“bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. <sup>29</sup>“If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. <sup>30</sup>“Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. <sup>31</sup>“Do to others as you would have them do to you.

<sup>32</sup>“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup>“If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. <sup>34</sup>“If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. <sup>35</sup>“But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. <sup>36</sup>“Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

<sup>37</sup>“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven;

<sup>38</sup>give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON:**

*Pastor Jim Neal*

**HYMN:** *Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways*

# 772

**APOSTLES' CREED:**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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:**

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

*Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:*

P: . . . Lord, in your mercy.

C: **Hear our prayer.**

P: +Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

### SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE:

*We follow Jesus' direction in Matthew chapter 5 and make peace with each other before coming to the altar: Jesus said, "So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift."*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

*The ministers and congregation greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words: **Peace be with you.***

**OFFERING:** *The Offering is received as the Lord's table is prepared.*

### OFFERTORY: *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



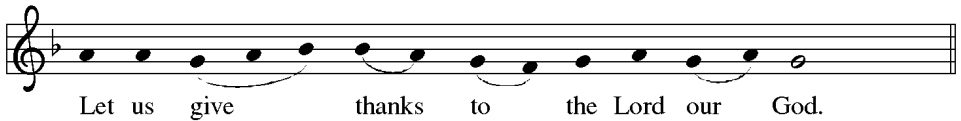
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

## OFFERING PRAYER:

P: Blessed are you,

**C: O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING:



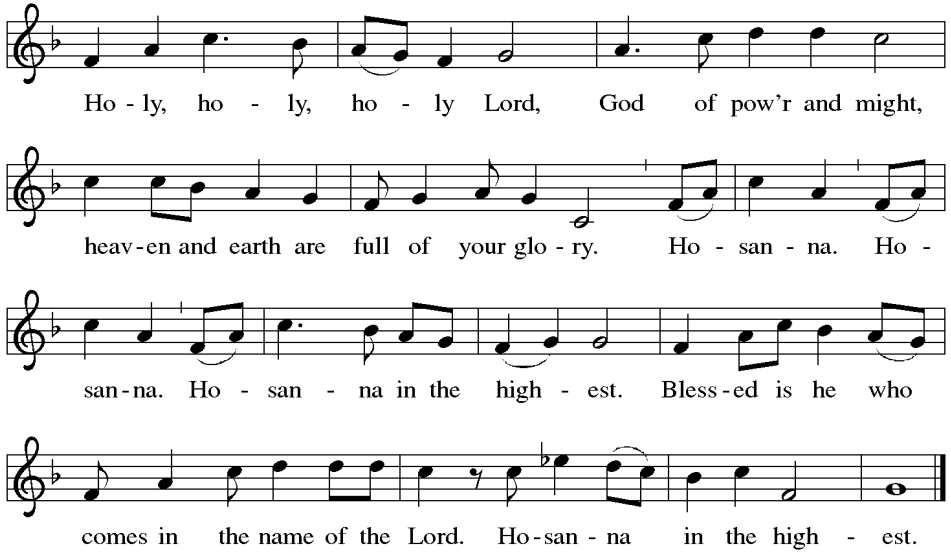
## PREFACE:

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## RESPONSE:



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.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION:

P: In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.



## 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

## LAMB OF GOD:



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.

## COMMUNION:

*Please receive the bread and wine as the pastor speaks the words:*

The body of Christ, given for you; and the blood of Christ, shed for you.

*The communicant may say: "Amen."*

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

## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE:

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 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

## PRAYER:

P: Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever. **C: Amen**

## **BLESSING:**

♫ P: Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

*Sung Response: Amen, Amen, Amen*

**HYMN: *God of Grace and God of Glory***

**# 705**

## **DISMISSAL:**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE:**

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### **OPPORTUNITIES AT CHRIST LUTHERAN**

#### **Today**

8:30-Traditional Worship

9:45-Contemporary Worship

11:00-Traditional Worship

**Monday**-9:00-Quilters/Sewers

**Tuesday**-2:00-Bible Study

6:00-Contemporary Team Instrumental/6:30-Vocal

**Thursday**-6:30-Traditional Choir Practice

**Saturday**-4:30 & 5:30 pm-Volleyball games @ First Baptist

### **FUTURE MINISTRIES**

**Sun-Mar 2**-9:45-Sunday School

**Mon-Mar 3**-9:00-Quilters/Sewers

**Tues-Mar 4**-2:00-Bible Study

**5:00-Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner**

6:00-Contemporary Team Instrumental/6:30-Vocal

**Wed-Mar 5**-Ash Wednesday-1:00 & 7:00-Worship

**Thurs-Mar 6**-6:30-Traditional Choir Practice

**Sat-Mar 8**-6:30 & 7:00 pm-Volleyball games @ First Baptist

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Next Sunday's Gospel: Luke 9:28-43a

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**Attendance last week: Sunday Worship: 8:30-31; 9:45-52; 11:00-47**

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The flowers in the chancel vases have been presented  
to the Glory of the Lord.

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We welcome Pastor Jim Neal as our worship leader. Thank you for your presence among us today.

**New Organ Donations.** . . If you would like to contribute toward the new organ, pledge cards and donation envelopes are available by the organ pipe display in the narthex. They may be placed in the offering plate or left in the church office. Thank you!

**Sunday School** for preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> graders **next Sunday March 2** at 9:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner . . . next Tuesday March 4 at 5 p.m.** We'll enjoy pancakes, scrambled eggs, bacon, juices and coffee! Please sign up if you will attend and if you are able to help. Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board. All are welcome.

**Ash Wednesday is next Wednesday March 5.** Worship with Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.

**Senior High Youth Brunch . . . Sunday March 16** the senior high youth will gather in the back of the Fellowship Hall for brunch and fellowship from 10:40 to noon. Sign up today!

**6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade Youth Spring Retreat Friday-Saturday March 28-29,** 7p.m. to 5 p.m. at Camp Mountain Run in Penfield. The retreat is a great opportunity to grow our friendships, play, eat, and worship together, and sleep over one night. Families, please mark your calendars and sign your youth up to attend by March 10! Additional registration forms are available from Pastor Amy.

**The March Worship Assistant Schedule** is available in the narthex.

**Epiphany Season Devotions, The Gospel of Luke,** are available in the narthex and can be downloaded from our website.

**Mission of the Month: Tackle Hunger: Souper Bowl of Caring.** If you would like make a financial gift to the DuBois Area Food Pantry, please use the pew envelopes and write "Hunger" in the "other" line. Checks may be made payable to Christ Lutheran Church.

**Food Pantry Items** for February are PEANUT BUTTER and/or SALTINE CRACKERS.