



**MARCH 16, 2025 – 9:00 AM**  
**SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**  
**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**WOODCLIFF LAKE, NEW JERSEY**

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## A SPECIAL WELCOME AS WE CELEBRATE THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

[All text in *italics* is spoken by the leader. Please speak the **bolded** words if you desire.]

\* \* \* \* \*

*Though we sometimes doubt and often resist God's desire to protect and save us, our God persists. In holy baptism, God's people have been called and gathered into a God-initiated relationship that will endure. Lent provides the church with a time and a tradition in which to seek God's face again. Lent provides another occasion to behold the God of our salvation in the face of the Blessed One who "comes in the name of the Lord."*

**TODAY'S COVER ART** is by Violet Stutzel.

**WORSHIP IS LIVESTREAMED ON FACEBOOK AND YOUTUBE** with cameras showing everything along the altar space (including the rail) as well as the front pews.

**BREAKING THE SOUND BARRIER:** We invite you to try one of our listening devices for those who need hearing assistance. Please speak to a worship leader if you need one.

**PINK PRAYER CARDS:** You may write names for prayer on a pink card from the pew rack in and place on the altar rail. To add a name to our printed prayer list and to our prayer chain write "Add to Prayer List" on the card. Please be sure this prayer request is approved by the person for whom we are praying.

**NURSERY AND PLAYROOM:** There is a self-serve Nursery and Playroom for young children accompanied by their parents. The Nursery contains a bathroom with a changing table. These rooms are located along the hallway through the side door of the sanctuary.

**NEED AN OFFERING ENVELOPE?** We have envelopes in the pews for you. Please include your contact information or envelope number. Offerings may also be paid via checking account online at [www.clc4u.com/give](http://www.clc4u.com/give), scan the QR cord, or mail to the church.



**WEEKLY NEWSLETTER:** Stay up to date with everything happening at CLC and in our local community by signing up to our weekly newsletter at [www.clc4u.com/Newsletter](http://www.clc4u.com/Newsletter).

## **PRELUDE, WELCOME, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

[The congregation stands as able.]

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

[By Rev. Roddy Hamilton.]

*When the world is no longer a paradise  
and creation shows its full power over us still  
and we are brought down to size on this small planet of ours*

### **We worship**

*When the memories linger of the past  
and war shapes us beyond our knowing  
and conflict becomes a story of life*

### **We worship**

*When the way is more barren than beautiful  
when the path is more a climb than a stroll  
when the desert expands and the horizon stretches*

### **We worship**

*We worship*  
**because we can**  
**because we hope**  
**because we know our vulnerability**

*When things shift  
and we need to hold on*

### **We worship**

*It is our strength for the journey*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.*

**Amen.**

*Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love.*

[A time for quiet reflection.]

*Compassionate One,  
you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,  
but our lives do not always reflect you  
and your love for the world.*

**We do not show others the tender compassion  
you have shown to us.**

**We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality  
you grant to all people.**

**We oppress others,  
even though you have set us free again and again.**

**We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.**

**Transform our lives  
and guide us again in the way of the cross.**

**Amen.**

*Beloved in Christ,  
God's arms are always stretched open wide  
to welcome the wandering ones home.*

*In † Christ your sins are forgiven.*

*You have a place in God's house forever.*

**Amen.**

[Please remain standing as you are able.]

### GATHERING SONG – “Lord I Lift Your Name on High”

♩=86

G C/G D/G C/G G C/G



Lord, I lift Your name \_ on high; Lord, I love to sing \_ Your

4 D/G C/G G C/G D/G C/G



prais - es. \_\_\_\_ I'm so glad You're in \_\_\_\_ my life;

7 G C/G D D<sup>sus</sup> D C G C



I'm so glad You came \_ to save \_ us. \_\_\_\_ You came from heav - en to earth.

10 D C/D G C D C



\_\_ to show the way, \_\_ From the earth \_\_\_\_ to the cross \_\_ my debt to pay; \_

13 G C D Em<sup>7</sup>



\_\_ From the cross \_\_\_\_ to the grave, \_\_ from the grave \_\_\_\_ to the sky; \_

15 Am<sup>7</sup> D G



\_\_ Lord, I lift Your name \_\_\_\_ on high.

[Words and Music: Rick Founds. CLCI Song #117947. CCLI License: #2576787.]

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*Let us pray. God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

**Amen.**

[The congregation may sit.]

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

[Kids are invited to come sit with Pastor Marc on the steps of the altar.]

## **FIRST READING FROM THE BIBLE: GENESIS 15:1-12, 17-18**

*<sup>1</sup>After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." <sup>2</sup>But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." <sup>4</sup>But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." <sup>5</sup>He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." <sup>6</sup>And he believed the Lord, and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.*

*<sup>7</sup>Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." <sup>8</sup>But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" <sup>9</sup>He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." <sup>10</sup>He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other, but he did not cut the birds in two. <sup>11</sup>And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.*

*<sup>12</sup>As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.*

*<sup>17</sup>When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. <sup>18</sup>On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates.”*

*The Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

[Please stand as you are able.]

**THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE 13:31-35**

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*<sup>31</sup>At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus], “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” <sup>32</sup>He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. <sup>33</sup>Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ <sup>34</sup>Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! <sup>35</sup>See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’ ”*

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

[You may be seated. ]

**THE SERMON – “Covered” Rev. Marc A. Stutzel**

[Please stand as you are able.]





**SONG AFTER THE SERMON – “You are My All In All”**

\*Part-I

F C Dm Dm<sup>7</sup> Am Gm<sup>7</sup> F/C C<sup>7</sup>



1. You are my strength when I am weak. You are the treasure that I seek. You are my all in  
 2. Taking my sin, my cross, my shame, Rising a - gain I bless Your name; You are my all in

*\*Part I and Part II may be sung as a round.*

4 F C<sup>7</sup> F C Dm Dm<sup>7</sup> Am

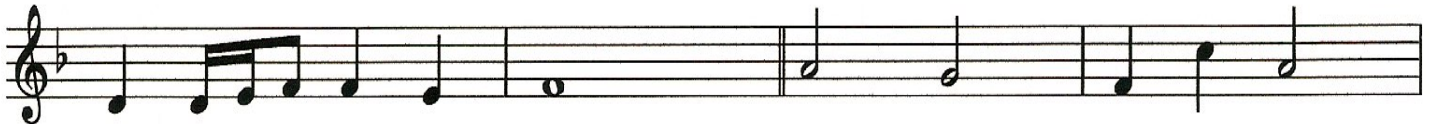


all. \_\_\_\_\_  
 all. \_\_\_\_\_

Seek-ing You as a pre-cious jew'l, Lord, to give up I'd be a  
 When I fall down, You pick me up; When I am dry, You fill my

\*Part-II

7 Gm<sup>7</sup> F/C C<sup>7</sup> B $\flat$ /F F F C Dm Dm<sup>7</sup> Am



fool. You are my all in all. Je - sus, Lamb of God,  
 cup; You are my all in all.

11 Gm<sup>7</sup> F/C C<sup>7</sup> F C<sup>7</sup> F C



wor - thy is Your name! \_\_\_\_\_ Je - sus,

14 Dm Dm<sup>7</sup> Am Gm<sup>7</sup> F/C C<sup>7</sup> B $\flat$ /F F



Lamb of God, wor - thy is Your name!

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

*Let us confess our faith in the words of The 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.**

[The congregation may be seated.]

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.*

[A time for reflection.]

*Holy God, you long to gather your church under your wings. Provide wisdom, strength, and a prophetic heart to our bishops Elizabeth and Tracie as well as all chaplains serving in the military. Bless the churches of Jerusalem, and all persecuted churches, that your people may take heart and stand firm as they witness and minister in your name. God, in your mercy,*  
**receive our prayer.**

*Holy God, you give shelter to living things as numerous as the stars. Strengthen the voice of prophets who call humanity to faithful care for the planet, that they would not be silenced but heeded as your messengers. God, in your mercy,*  
**receive our prayer.**

*Holy God, you raised up leaders like Abram, Sarai, and Paul to show your people what it means to rely on your promises. Guide today's leaders especially Donald the President, Philip, NJ's governor, Holly, Robert, John, our NJ state legislators, to work for justice. May they move beyond short sighted goals and safeguard the world for future generations who will expand our vision of what it means to be a welcoming and loving child of God. God, in your mercy,*  
**receive our prayer.**

*Holy God, you are the stronghold of our life. Care tenderly for those who are ill in body or mind, and for people living in fear or need especially...*

**Dolores Albert, Deb Caspere, Jason, Harry, Mary Sullivan,  
David and Doris Crouse, Jackson Fehr, Jim Sallo, Judy Trembath, Faye Rekosik,  
Conrad Martin, Vivian, Steven Korinko, Edie Post, Bruce Conway, Jeffrey,  
Chris Quesada, Cian Dankin, Gunnel Wuehler, Miriam Valder, Matthew Clune,  
the family of Joel Mowery, the family of James Taylor**

*May all know they are not alone. God, in your mercy,*  
**receive our prayer.**

*Holy God, you offer us citizenship in heaven. Unite communities of faith who are divided over earthly things, that following the way of your Son, they may set aside grudges and serve their neighbors with generosity and love. God, in your mercy,*  
**receive our prayer.**

*Holy God, you are our light and our salvation. We give thanks for the saints who have gone before us. Help us to trust in you as they did and to live according to their example. God, in your mercy,*  
**receive our prayer.**

*Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.*  
**Amen.**

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

*Let us pray. Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, bless the generosity shown in the financial gifts we placed in the offering plate, mailed to the church, donated online, as well as the generosity we live out through the care and service we share in the world. Deepen our commitment to sharing all your treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.***

## **PEACE**

*I invite you to take a look at everyone who surrounds you in your sacred space. Let us send a blessing to one another via the peace sign, wishing that the peace of Christ may be with them.*

*Let us now think about all who are worshiping in the sanctuary, online, via conference call, or at a different time than right now. In our hearts, let's send to your entire faith community a blessing and wish that the peace of Christ may be with them.*

*Finally, let the blessing we offer each other go out to our families, friends, neighbors, and the entire world. With God's help, our hearts are big enough to extend peace that far. Let us embody the peace of Christ after we leave worship today.*

## **THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

[This is the Lord's Table. You are welcome and invited to it. Please stand as you are able. ]

*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.**

*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.*

*Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, present here and connecting across space and time itself – let us pray as Jesus taught us:*

**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**

*You are here, not because you are perfect, but because, through Christ Jesus, you are welcomed and loved.*

[The congregation may sit.]

#### **HOLY COMMUNION**

[All are invited to the Table where Christ is bodily present in the bread and drink.

When space is available at the rail, please come forward to kneel or stand.

Please space yourselves generously along the rail.

Bread will be distributed first (gluten free wafers are available),

followed by wine and grape juice in individual cups.

Children and all who have not received First Communion can request a blessing.

For those joining at home or in your seats, we invite you to commune yourself when Pastor Marc is served at the end. A medley of music will be played while communion is distributed. ]

*The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.*

[Please stand as you are able once communion is complete.]

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

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## SENDING SONG — “Mighty to Save”

$\text{♩} = 74$

C G Em




1. Ev-'ry-one needs com-pas -sion, love that's nev - er fail -ing. \_ Let  
2. So take \_ me as You find \_ me, all my fears and fail -ures. \_

4 D C G



mer - cy fall on \_ me. \_ Ev-'ry-one needs for-give -ness, \_ the kind -ness of a Sav-  
Fill my life a - gain. \_ I give \_ my life to fol - low, \_ ev-'ry-thing I believe.

7 Em D C D C D



- iour. \_ The Hope of na - tions. \_  
\_ in. \_ Now I sur - ren - der. \_

11 G D C G




Sav - iour, He can move the \_ moun - tains. My God is might - y to save. \_ He is

14 Em D G D



might - y to save. \_ For - ev - er, Au - thor of Sal - va - tion. He rose and

17 C G Em D



con- quered the grave. \_ Je- sus con- quered the grave. \_

Last time to Coda  $\text{Ⓢ}$  1. C G

[Song continues on next page.]

21 Em D 2. C G D Em

25 C G D Em C G

Shine your light, and let the whole world \_

28 D Em C G D Em

\_\_ see. We're sing-ing for the glo - ry of the ris - en King. \_\_ Je - sus.

31 C G D Em

Shine your light, and let the whole world \_\_ see. We're sing - ing

33 C G D D.S. al Coda

for the glo - ry \_\_ of the ris - en King. \_\_

⊕ Coda

35 G D C G

Sav - iour, He can move the moun-tains. My God is might-y to save. \_\_ He is

38 Em D G D

might-y to save. \_\_ For - ev - er, Au - thor of Sal - va - tion. He rose and

[Song continues on next page.]

41 C G Em D C G

con-quired the grave. \_ Je-sus con-quired the grave. \_ Shine your light, and let the whole world.

44 D Em C G D Em

\_ see. We're sing-ing for the glo - ry of the ris - en King. \_ Je - sus.

47 C G D Em

Shine your light, and let the whole world \_ see. We're sing - ing

49 C G D

for the glo - ry \_ of the ris - en King. \_

[Words and Music: Reuben Morgan and Ben Fielding. CCLI Song # 4591782, CCLI License #2576787]

### **BLESSING AND DISMISSAL**

[By Rev. Roddy Hamilton.]

*May we find the road that leads to life;  
 may we take the turns that brings right relationships;  
 may we pause to accompany others on the way;  
 and may we journey with † Christ through Lent,  
 and long for the horizon and dawn.*

*Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.  
 Thanks be to God!*

### **POSTLUDE**



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**A SPECIAL HELLO TO EVERYONE ATTENDING CLC TODAY FOR THE FIRST TIME.** We are blessed by your presence and pray you will be blessed in this space. If you wish, fill out the orange card ("We're glad you're here!") in the back of the pew in front of you. And if you need to talk to Pastor Marc, please reach out!

**AED:** If a medical emergency occurs and an AED is needed, one is located in the red bag on top of the church mailboxes next to the church office and choir room.

**ENRICH YOUR WORK WEEK AND ENHANCE YOUR PRAYERS:** read these appointed selections in preparation for Sunday, March 23: Isaiah 55:1-9. Psalm 63:1-8. 1 Corinthians 10:1-13. Luke 13:1-9.

**LENT DEVOTIONAL:** Copies of our Lenten Devotion, *Life Renewed*, are available in the Narthex. Take a copy home or ask the church office to send you one.

**CARE COMMITTEE SPONSORED COFFEE HOURS:** During the season of Lent, the Care Committee will be hosting coffee hours after worship. Enjoy the cups of coffee, bagels, and other items. Care is accepting cash donations to benefit ELCA World Hunger as well as the Tri-Boro Food Pantry. Knit 1, Crochet Too, will also have items available for sale as well.

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** If you would like to sponsor flowers for future weeks (\$60 per Sun. through our florist or you can bring two bouquets of your own) in honor or memory of loved ones, sign your name on the flower chart in the narthex.

**DECORATE THE ALTAR FOR EASTER:** Help beautify the worship space for Easter! Envelopes to purchase flowers are available in the narthex. Each plant costs \$10. Sign-up for as many as you would like - 6" lilies, 6" tulips, and 6" daffodils.

### **ASSISTING MINISTERS TODAY:**

**9:00 AM**

Musician – David Scance

**10:30 AM**

Musician – Argine Safari

Communion – Tom Kearns

Lector — Lois Hainsselin

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THE WEEK**

**Sunday – March 16**

Worship at 9:00 am & 10:30 am  
Confirmation Class, 9:45 am

**Tuesday, March 18**

Knit One, Crochet Too, 10:00 am

**Wednesday, March 19**

Bible Study, 11:00 am  
Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 4:30 pm

**Thursday, March 20**

Church Council Meeting, 7:30 pm

**Next Sunday – March 23**

Worship at 9:00 am & 10:30 am  
Confirmation Class, 9:45 am



**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Pastor: Rev. Marc A. Stutzel  
Parish Admin: Evie Salerno  
Director of Music: Argine Safari  
Contemporary Music: David Scance  
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[instagram.com/clc4u](https://www.instagram.com/clc4u)  
Worship on Sundays:  
9:00 am & 10:30 am