



Community of Christ Lutheran Church
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
February 2, 2025, 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.
Pastor Stephen C. Bond



THE GATHERING

Welcome

Pastor Steve Bond

Musical Prelude
10:00

“Fughetta” by John Pachelbel
“We Gather Together”

Eric Dickey
Bell Choir

WE REMEMBER OUR BAPTISM

“Confession and Forgiveness”

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. **Amen.**

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God, **you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your loving kindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, so that we may live in Christ’s ways. Amen.**

God proclaims these words of assurance: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine.” In † Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

ELW 705

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.**



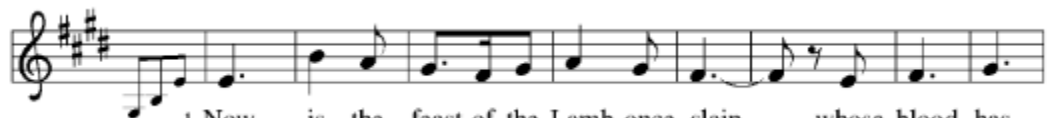
Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



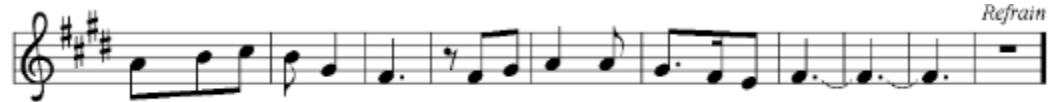
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, and Lord. **P Amen.**

THE READINGS

The First Reading: Jeremiah 1:4-10

⁵ “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
and before you were born I consecrated you;
I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”

⁶ Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.”

⁷ But the LORD said to me,

“Do not say, ‘I am only a boy’;
for you shall go to all to whom I send you,
and you shall speak whatever I command you.

⁸ Do not be afraid of them,
for I am with you to deliver you,
says the LORD.”

⁹ Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me,
“Now I have put my words in your mouth.

¹⁰ See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms,
to pluck up and to pull down,
to destroy and to overthrow,
to build and to plant.”

L The Word of the Lord C Thanks be to God!

The Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

¹ If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵ or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶ it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. ⁷ It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸ Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. ⁹ For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; ¹⁰ but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. ¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. ¹² For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I

will know fully, even as I have been fully known.¹³ And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

L The Word of the Lord C Thanks be to God!

Congregation:

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia!

The Holy Gospel: Luke 4:21-30

P The Holy Gospel according to....C Glory to you, O Lord!

²¹ Then [Jesus] began to say to [all in the synagogue in Nazareth,] “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” ²² All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?” ²³ He said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Doctor, cure yourself!’ And you will say, ‘Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.’” ²⁴ And he said, “Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet’s hometown. ²⁵ But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; ²⁶ yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. ²⁷ There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.” ²⁸ When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. ²⁹ They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. ³⁰ But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

P The Gospel of the Lord! C Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

"The Scandal of Mercy"

Pastor Stephen Bond

Hymn

“O Word of God Incarnate”

ELW 514

Installation of 2025 Council

The Apostles' Creed

C 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.

WE DEDICATE OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER

P With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

AM God of eternal wisdom, we pray for your church, which is being transformed by your word. Bless the church with your wisdom and guidance. Let us notice and take part in the new thing you are doing. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

AM Your creation sustains us and all living creatures. Grant us humility to acknowledge the ways we bring harm to the earth. Grant us courage to make effective change so that all lands and living things prosper. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

AM Embolden leaders of nations, corporations, and all in authority, that they lovingly tend those in their charge. Help them to respond to all who cry out in need. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

AM Provide for those whose hunger runs deep due to isolation, loneliness, or illness; **Tom Jennings, Sue & Jim Enk, Christal & Chad Pritchard, Frank O'Konski, Larry Geer, Luke Holtz, Susie Donnal, Ron Hetherwick, Martina Benton, Jake Cope, Debbie Carman, Paula Gruhler, Virginia Dillon, Becky King, Staci, Eric Lewis, Sam Kenney, Nathan Dippilo, Lauren Bradford, Jason Rupp, Jack Shultz, Dorothy Petrell, Sophia....** and all those we remember in silence. Send your Spirit so that all are filled with your presence and experience welcome from their communities. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

AM Send your Spirit so that all are filled with your presence and experience welcome from their communities. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

AM We remember those who have gone before us, especially Marie Keller. Let their faithful example continue to bear witness to us all. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

P We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen.**

THE MEAL

All Christians are welcome to commune at our Altar. You do not have to be a member of this congregation to receive Communion. Grape juice is available in the inner ring of glasses for those desiring it. A "gluten-free" host option is available upon request as well.

Sharing of the Peace

P The Peace of the Lord be with you all! **C** **And also with you!**

Share an expression of peace with your neighbor, please.

The congregation continues to stand during Tithes and Offerings if you are able.

Our Tithes and Offerings *Bring your gifts to the Altar, or you may offer gifts in the tray located at the rear of the sanctuary. Thank you.*

Offering Prayer

AM God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give". The first staff is for the Presider and Congregation. The second staff is for the Presider and Congregation. The third staff is for the Presider.

Presider: Congregation:

The Lord be with you. And al - so with

you. Lift up your hearts. We

lift them to the Lord. Let us give

Congregation:

thanks to the Lord our God. It is
right to give God thanks and praise.

****The Eucharistic Prayer Continues.....**

HOLY

Congregation:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!
Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

The Words of Institution

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. Jesus said, 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. Jesus said, Do this for the remembrance of me.

10:00

“Grazioso”

Bell Choir

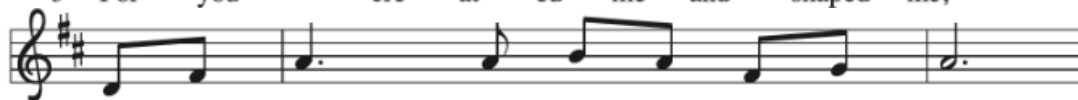
Hymn

“O God You Search Me”

ACS 1082



1 O God, you search me and you know me.
2 You know my rest - ing and my ris - ing.
3 Be - fore a word is on my tongue, Lord,
4 Al - though your Spir - it is up - on me,
5 For you cre - at - ed me and shaped me,



All my thoughts lie o - pen to your gaze.
You dis - cern my pur - pose from a - far,
you have known its mean - ing through and through.
still I search for shel - ter from your light.
gave me life with - in my moth - er's womb.



When I walk or lie down you are be - fore me:
and with love ev - er - last - ing you be - siege me:
You are with me be - yond my un - der - stand - ing:
There is no - where on earth I can es - cape you:
For the won - der of who I am, I praise you:



ev - er the mak - er and keep - er of my days.
in ev - 'ry mo - ment of life or death, you are.
God of my pres - ent, my past, and fu - ture, too.
e - ven the dark - ness is ra - diant in your sight.
safe in your hands, all cre - a - tion is made new.

“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

ELW 543

Post Communion Blessing

Prayer after Communion

AM Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

Prayer at the Sending of Communion

Compassionate God, as Jesus called disciples to follow him, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick/homebound*. May these gifts be signs of our love and prayers, that through the sharing of the body and blood of Christ, all may know your grace and healing revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

THE SENDING

Milestones & Announcements:

The Blessing

P The Spirit of the triune God † bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

“Shine, Jesus, Shine”

ELW 671

Dismissal

AM Go in peace. Live in hope. **Thanks be to God.**

AM And next week, **C Bring a friend!**



Making Jesus Known”

Welcome to Community of Christ! Our family welcomes you to the house of the Lord today! We ask God to bless His Holy Word and Sacrament today so that his people might receive strength for living out our days! If you are looking for a church home, we hope you will consider Community of Christ!

We WELCOME YOU to worship with us at one of our **TWO** worship services. Join us at 8:00 a.m. or 10:00 a.m. in person or on Facebook Live. We look forward to seeing you and as always **BRING A FRIEND!!!!**

When God Breaks the Rules: A Thursday Afternoon Bible Study

We often picture God as the Giver of Rules and the Maker of Laws (including, obviously, the ones literally written in stone like the Ten Commandments). But what about the times in the Bible when God does a new thing, moves in a new direction, or expands the old order of the world? What about when God *breaks* the rules? This is what we are looking at in our Thursday afternoon Bible Study series. Join us for our new original ten-part study that Pastor Steve is calling *When God Breaks the Rules*. We are learning about how God overturned the customs and traditions of the day from the earliest stories in our Bible to times when Jesus broke with the inherited traditions of the Respectable Religious Teachers of his day, to the movement of the New Testament era church as the Spirit led the first Christians across lines and borders to

the ends of the earth with Jesus' love. Join us this Thursday **at 1:00 p.m.** in the council room for our journey in the expansive, surprising, and often rebellious ways of God! All are welcome!

Adult Sunday School Series: "Jesus—The Wonder Years"

What would it have been like to raise the child Jesus? Have you ever wondered what Jesus' childhood was like, or why there are so few stories from that part of his life? And with the handful of stories we do have from the Bible, what do they mean and why do they matter for our lives? In our new series for our Sunday morning Adult Class, we will spend time looking at important episodes from the early life of Jesus across the gospels, in what we do—and don't—know. Join us for these conversations from 9:15-9:45 a.m. (between services) on Sunday mornings:

- Feb. 2—The Presentation, Part 2 (Simeon and Anna)
- Feb. 9—No Class—Congregational Breakfast in the fellowship hall
- Feb. 16—the Child Jesus in the Temple

Join us for any or all of these studies on Sunday mornings here at Community of Christ this January and February!

Join Us for Conversation and More!

Starting this February, we invite you to gather at the church with both old and new friends for a variety of fun activities: Catch up and connect with others, enjoy drinks and light snacks, play games and cards (euchre, anyone?), team up for jigsaw puzzle challenges, lend a hand with Visitation Ministry projects, get some light exercise with a walk through the halls, share your ideas for future activities.

Feel free to bring a neighbor or a friend—more people means more fun!

Dates: February 11th, 1-3 p.m. and February 21st, 1-3 p.m. Don't worry if you miss the sign-up—you're still welcome to join! Sign up at the kiosk or contact the office with any questions. We can't wait to see you there!

Pancakes, egg bakes, and donuts oh my! Bring your friends and your appetites, as the Outreach Committee and friends will be hosting a breakfast between services on **Sunday, February 9th**. Funds raised in the free-will offering will support our efforts to provide monthly breakfast treats to the faculty and staff at one of the area AW schools.

2024 Church Offering Statements Now Available for Pick-Up!

Your 2024 offering statements are now available for pick-up! They are located on the table in the gathering space for your convenience. Please take a moment to grab yours after service or stop by the church office during regular office hours. If you prefer your statement to be mailed, please contact the office to make arrangements.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

Fellowship Invites you to participate in our 1st Community of Christ Chili Cook-Off on Sunday, February 23rd, right here after service. Sign-ups to compete are on the kiosk. Sign up with your name # and email by Sunday, February 9th. There is also a separate sign-up sheet for those not participating in the competition who want to be a taster and vote for their favorite chili. All are welcome to taste and vote for our C of C Chili Cook-Off winner.

The Tuesday Ladies Bible Study will begin March 4th @ 8:30 am. We will be doing a Kristi McLelland study "The Gospel on the Ground"- Christ has ascended- now what? We will learn how the remaining disciples chose a new member to replace Judas and then became organized to begin spreading the Gospel without Christ present. This is a 7-week study, and you will need to order the study guide before class. Please sign up at the kiosk. If you have any questions, please call Becky King @ 419-349-7319. Bring a friend!!

Worship Volunteer Workshop – Saturday, Feb 2, 9:00 am

Ever wonder what is involved with helping with worship or what may be new with worship roles? Please join us on Saturday, Feb 2 for the Worship Volunteer Workshop. **Who is this for?** – Current and new Worship volunteers **What will I learn?** – Details of each worship volunteer role, including new information or changes to some roles. **Why should I attend?** To enhance your effectiveness in your current role or to explore serving in a new capacity. We particularly need more volunteers for camera operators, communion preparation/cleaning, door greeting, bulletin assistance, acolytes/crucifers, vergers, and worship assistants. Please consider taking on a new role. **What if I cannot attend this session but want to volunteer in worship?** – Guidance documents for all roles will be available. Contact Pastor Steve, Michelle Gebhart, or Laurie Mauro for a one-on-one discussion and access to the guidance documents.

What's Happening This Week?



AW Youth Minute to Win It @ HUMC
Sunday, February 2, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Visitation Ministry
Monday, February 3, 10:30 a.m.
LWR Quilt Ministry
Tuesday, February 4, 10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.
Social Action Ministry
Wednesday, February 5, 10:00 a.m.
Choir Practice
Wednesday, February 5, 7:00 p.m.

Worship & Music
Thursday, February 6, 10:00 a.m.
Pastor's Bible Study
Thursday, February 6, 1:00 p.m.
Stewardship
Thursday, February 6, 6:00 p.m.
Bell Choir
Thursday, February 6, 7:00 p.m.
Prairie Meadow Task Force
Thursday, February 6, 7:00 p.m.