**3rd Sunday After Epiphany**

**January 22, 2023**

**9:30am**

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**Christ Lutheran Church**

6500 E. Stearns Street

Long Beach, California 90815

Phone 562-598-2433

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[www.clclb.com](http://www.clclb.com)

**Welcome to worship! We’re glad you’re here!**

To assist in your worship:

**bold** print means we respond together

**\*** meansstand as you are able,

+ you may make the sign of the cross should you so desire.

**TODAY’S worship THEME**

Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We see this light most profoundly in the cross—as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around the word, the font, and the holy table. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be “caught” in the net of God’s grace and mercy.



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**GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**  Please Stand and face the baptismal font.

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, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the

Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

**\*GATHERING SONG*:*** *Open The Eyes of My Heart*

Chorus

  Open the eyes of my heart, Lord.

  Open the eyes of my heart,

  I want to see You, I want to see You. (repeat)

Verse

  To see you high and lifted up, shining in the light of Your glory.

  Pour out Your pow’r and love;

  As we sing holy, holy, holy.

(repeat all)

**Ending**

  Holy, holy, holy

  Holy, holy. holy

  Holy, holy, holy

  I want to see You.

**\*GREETING**

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

**\*KYRIE**

Table

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**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. *A brief silence*. **Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**WORD**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

**MUSIC MAKERS** Preschool children led by Mrs. Fitzpatrick

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SCRIPTURE READING** Isaiah 9:1-4 PewBible Old Testament Pg.706

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

### **RESPONSIVE PSALM** Psalm 27:1,4-9 PewBible Old Testament Pg. 555

1The 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?  
**4One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.** 5For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock.  
**6Now my head is 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.** 7Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!  
**8"Come," my heart says, "seek his face!" Your face, LORD, do I seek.** 9Do not hide your face from me. Do not turn your servant away in anger,  
 you who have been my help. Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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**\*GOSPEL** Matthew 4:12-23 Pew Bible New Testament Pg. 3

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 4th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The reading concludes: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**\*SERMON SONG** *Will You Come and Follow Me* #798

vs 1, 2, 3, 5

**\*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.**

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified. **Amen.**

**\*SHARING OF PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

**OFFERTORY**

**\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE** *I Want to Walk as a Child of Light #815*

A sheet of music

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A sheet of music

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**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray, **Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, Amen.**

**MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus.*

**\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy … we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**\*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

Timeline

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**\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

You are indeed holy…

…For as often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes. **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

\***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.**

**DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

We believe that this is Jesus' table. All are welcome and invited to commune.  We serve communion by “intinction”; receive the bread and dip it in the chalice of red wine. Currently we are offering individual communion cups as an alternative to intinction if you so desire. Both wine and grape juice (white) are offered in the tray. Gluten free bread is available; let your server know. Should you choose not to commune, please come forward to receive a blessing. Please cross your arms across your chest.



**lamb of god**

Table

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**COMMUNION SONG** *On Eagle’s Wings* #787

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray, **Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you. Amen.**

**SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

**\*BLESSING**

The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor’s rod ☩ bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always. **Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN** *This Little Light of Mine* #677

**\*Dismissal**

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus. **Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE**

A black and white drawing of a skull

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**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF**

**Interim Pastor**  Rev. Laurie Arroyo, lauriethere@msn.com

**Office Manager** Kim Croes, [officemanager@christlutheranlb.com](mailto:officemanager@christlutheranlb.com)

**Preschool Director** Lisa Clinton, info@clplb.com

**Interim Choir Director** Kim Philips, kimsings@msn.com

**Accompanist** Roger Halvorson

**Percussionist** Nathan Latiolait

**Missionary to Colombia** Linda Gawthorne

**It is our joy to worship with your whole family this morning!**

**CHILDCARE**

We encourage everyone of all ages and abilities to worship together. If you do need to take a "time out", please do so in the narthex (gathering space at the entry), and return to worship when you are ready. A changing table is located in the restroom off the narthex. Activity bags, filled with crayons, paper and storybooks, are available in the narthex. Please ask an usher if you need any assistance.

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

*Christ Is Alive!*

**OUR VISION STATEMENT**

*Christ Lutheran Church is a community of believers committed to praising our Savior Jesus Christ. With his love, we reach out to those in need and welcome all with open hearts. Our worship dynamically combines, word, song and prayer to share God’s incredible message. Having faith in this, we go forth knowing that with God and the power of the Holy Spirit, anything is possible.*

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