**Reconciling in Christ Sunday**

**January 26, 2025**

**9:30am**



**Christ Lutheran Church**

6500 E. Stearns Street

Long Beach, California 90815

Phone 562-598-2433

www.christlutheranlb.com

Preschool 562-594-6117

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

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

To assist in your worship:

**bold** print means we respond together

**\*** meansrise in body or spirit,

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

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

We encourage everyone of all ages and abilities to worship together.

We offer a “pray-ground” located in the back left of the Sanctuary for those with littles to have some room for movement and activity. The Narthex (gathering space at the entry) also has some resources for families, including activity bags filled with crayons, paper and storybooks. These supplies can be used in the Narthex or brought into the Sanctuary. For those that find themselves in the Narthex, there is a speaker with which you can still hear the service. Lastly, a changing table is located in the restroom off the Narthex. Please ask an usher if you need any assistance.

**TODAY’S worship THEME**

Resilient Community - This year’s theme allows us to celebrate how far we all have come in difficult times while also reminding us we need to keep moving toward the goal of true inclusion. It focuses our attention on how community bonds and relationships sustain the individual members of the community, building resilience in institutions and individuals. When we work together for justice, communities are stronger; when we work together, people are stronger.

Worship services for Christ Lutheran Church- Long Beach

are live-streamed and archived to YouTube.

By entering the sanctuary and by your presence here,

you consent to be photographed,

filmed, and/or otherwise recorded.

Please alert an usher if this is of concern to you.

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Expansive Language Liturgy: Sighs too Deep for Words, Evangelical Lutheran Worship, All Creation Sings, This Far by Faith, NW Synod of Wisconsin, Rev. A.J. Houseman, Rev. Karen Behling

**PRELUDE** Roger Halvorson

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING**

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

**\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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 lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world,**

**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 SONG** *God, We Gather as Your People ACS 1038*

A sheet music with notes

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A sheet music with notes

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**\*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.**

**\*pRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray together,

**Holy God,** **your Word teaches us, calls us, and shapes us, that we will become the wisdom of God and the body of Christ for others. On this Reconciling in Christ Sunday, may your word turn us toward what is good and holy and just, that all your beloveds would know they are seen, known, and loved by you. May the example of Jesus continue to create words and action of courage in the work and ministry of anti-racism. Amen.**

**WORD**

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

**CHILDREN’S CHAT**

*After this time, children will be invited to Sunday school. They will return during the passing of the peace.*

**FIRST READING** Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 (CEB version)

### **SCRIPTURE READING** 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a Pew Bible New Testament Pg.183

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

A sheet of music with notes

Description automatically generated**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *Alleluia ELW Pg.188*

**\*GOSPEL** Luke 4:14-21Pew Bible New Testament Pg. 62

The Gospel comes from Luke the 4th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

**SERMON** Pastor Steve Beckham

**\*SERMON HYMN** *Build a Longer Table ACS 1062*

A sheet music with text and notes

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**\*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**

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

*A brief silence.*

God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

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

**Amen.**

**\*SHARING OF PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**OFFERTORY** *Gather Your Children, Dear Savior, in Peace* Chancel Choir

**\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE** *We Are an Offering W&P #146*

*Chorus 1*

We lift our voices We lift our hands

We lift our lives up to You

We are an offering

Lord use our voices Lord use our hands

Lord use our lives they are Yours

We are an offering

*Bridge*

All that we have

All that we are

All that we hope to be

We give to You

We give to You

*Chorus 2*

We lift our voices We lift our hands

We lift our lives up to You

We are an offering

We are an offering

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray together, **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.**

**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:

A sheet of music with text

Description automatically generated**\* HOLY, HOLY, HOLY** *Holy, Holy, Holy ELW pg.190*

**\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life…

…Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

…All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**\*LORD’S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins** **as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.** **Amen.**

**ISTRIBUTION 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 wafers are available; let your server know. Should you choose not to commune, you are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Please cross your arms across your chest to let us know to give you that blessing.

**HEALING PRAYER**

*This morning we offer healing prayer. If you would like our healing minister to pray with and for you, please go to the right transept after taking communion.*

**\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

**lamb of god** *Lamb of God**ELW pg.191*

A sheet music with text and notes

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**COMMUNION SONG** *One Bread, One Body ELW #496*

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**\*POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

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

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray together,

**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.**

**SENDING**

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

**\*BLESSING**

May the blessing of God, ♰ Holy One and Holy Three, be with us today and every day, building us into a resilient community that practices justice and radical inclusion.

**Amen.**

**\*SENDING** **SONG** *All Are Welcome ELW #641*

*(verses 1, 2, 4, 5)*

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**\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Live in hope.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** Roger Halvorson

**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF**

**Pastor**  Rev. Nikki Fielder, pastor@christlutheranlb.com

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

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

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

**Accompanist** Roger Halvorson

**A/V Technicians** Brad Croes and Josh Baker

**Missionary to Colombia** Linda Gawthorne

**Mission Statement**

Living by Christ’s example, we welcome, serve, and love all through God’s grace.

**Vision Statement**

Embracing the truth that God’s love and grace is for all, Christ Lutheran Church is a vibrant and active community spreading the good news through acceptance, action, and benevolence.

**A heart shaped logo with a cross

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**Our Position**

Christ is ALIVE!

**Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Welcome Statement**

Christ Lutheran Church is a congregation who joyfully welcomes everyone who enters our doors. We recognize that each of us is a unique creation made in the image of God. We celebrate and give thanks for the many diverse gifts that God has bestowed on us. We proclaim ourselves to be an open and affirming congregation to all of God's children, welcoming into our ministry persons of every race, culture, age, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ability, and economic status. We commit ourselves to the work of anti-racism and creating an anti-racist space. We believe that through our openness we all grow in our faith through Christ's teaching to love one another as God loves us.

**LIKE** us on **Facebook** at [www.facebook.com/christlutheranlb](http://www.facebook.com/christlutheranlb)

Write a review of Christ Lutheran Church on **YELP**