**Fourth Sunday in Lent**

**March 30, 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**

**The need for change**

Change isn’t just an inevitability—it’s also a force for goodness and new life. Jesus’ parable of the prodigal child gives us a test case for change: change over the long haul, change in an instant, change in momentum, change of heart, and more.

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.

Our liturgy is taken from:

Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #20338.

Reprinted by permission under CCLI license # 230154. All rights reserved.

Reprinted by permission under © 2024 One License #A-706154. All rights reserved. *All We Need* © 2025 Barn Geese Worship. Used by permission. [Adapted by Pastor Nikki.]

Kyrie, Holy Holy Holy, and Lamb of God, written by Rev. Steve Beckham.

**PRELUDE** Roger Halvorson

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING**

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

**\*DIALOGUE**

People of God, what do you need today?

**Change that brings new life.**

Then come, let us worship God,

**who teaches us the way we should go, who ushers in a new creation, who can change our circumstances and our hearts.**

We gather in the name of our triune God, our Maker, our Redeemer, and our Reconciler.

**Amen.**

**\*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.

*Silence is kept for 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.**

**\*GATHERING SONG** *Build A Longer Table*

*(Verses 1, 3, 4)*

A sheet music with text and notes

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

**\*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.**

A sheet music with lines and notes

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**\*KYRIE**

**\*pRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray together,

**Renewing Christ, in you, everything old has passed away, and new things come into being! Ease our suspicion of change and our growing pains; teach us to embrace the transitions that help us and this world reveal you more fully. 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.*

**PSALM** Psalm 32  Pew Bible Old Testament Pg.559

1Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.  
**2Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.** 3While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.  
**4For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**  
 5Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the guilt of my sin.  
 **6Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.** 7You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.  
**8I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.** 9Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.  
**10Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD.** 11Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

### **READING** 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Pew Bible Old Testament Pg.191

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

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *Jesus, Name Above All Names W&P #77*

Jesus, name above all names  
Beautiful Saviour, Glorious Lord  
Emmanuel, God is with us  
Blessed Redeemer, Living Word

**\*GOSPEL** Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32Pew Bible New Testament Pg. 80

The Gospel comes from Luke the 15th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

**SERMON** Pastor Nikki Fielder

**\*SERMON HYMN** *Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling ELW #608*





**\*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**

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

*A brief silence.*

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.**

**BLESSING OF THE QUILTS**

**\*SHARING OF PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**OFFERTORY** *Grace Alone* Chancel Choir

**\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE** *Majesty W&P #94*

Majesty, worship his majesty  
Unto Jesus be all glory, power and praise  
Majesty, kingdom authority flow from his throne  
Unto his own his anthem raise  
So exalt lift up on high the name of Jesus  
Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus the king  
Majesty, worship his majesty  
Jesus who died now glorified  
King of all kings.

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray together,

**Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. 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 not only right, but even needful for us to thank you, God…and so we join the echoing song:

A sheet music with black and white text

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**\* HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

**\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Heaven and earth are full of your glory, O God…

All honor and glory is yours, O God, who is both Giver and Gift, with the Holy Spirit,

in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

**\*LORD’S PRAYER**

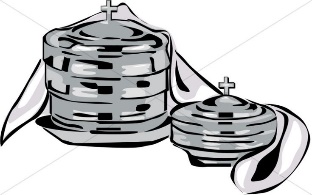
**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins** **as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory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

**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 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.

**\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.



**lamb of god**

**A sheet music with notes

AI-generated content may be incorrect.**

**COMMUNION SONG** *Amazing Grace ELW #779*

**\*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,

**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**

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

**\*BLESSING**

Now may God, bless you and sustain you. Today God has answered your need, and now the Spirit sends you out to answer the world’s need.

**Amen.**

**\*SENDING** ***SONG*** *My Life Flows On in Endless Song ELW #763*

*(verses 1, 2, 4)*



**\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

**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

Description automatically generated**

**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**