



Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
Saturday, February 24, 2018



ORDER OF WORSHIP

The congregation is invited to stand

GATHERING SONG “Across the Lands”

**You're the Word of God the Father
From before the world began.
Ev'ry star and ev'ry planet
Has been fashioned by Your hand.
All creation holds together
By the power of Your voice.
Let the skies declare Your glory;
Let the land and seas rejoice!**

Refrain

**You're the Author of creation;
You're the Lord of ev'ry man;
And Your cry of love rings out across the lands.**

**Yet You left the gaze of angels,
Came to seek and save the lost,
And exchanged the joy of heaven
For the anguish of a cross.
With a prayer You fed the hungry;
With a word You calmed the sea;
Yet how silently You suffered
That the guilty may go free! *Refrain***

**With a shout You rose victorious,
Wresting vict'ry from the grave,
And ascended into heaven,
Leading captives in Your way.
Now You stand before the Father,
Interceding for Your own;
From each tribe and tongue and nation,
You are leading sinners home!” *Refrain***

INVOCATION, CONFESSION, AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God of heaven and earth, you come in close and make us yours. Equip us by your Spirit to confess our sin, embrace your forgiveness, and seek the way you set before us in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: With honesty of heart, let us confess our sin.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

P: Merciful God,

C: Forgive us. Our will is handcuffed to sin, and we cannot break free. We have spoken when we should have kept quiet.

Silence

P: Merciful God,

C: We were silent when we should have said something.

Silence

P: Merciful God,

C: We acted when we knew better.

Silence

P: Merciful God,

C: We were still when we know we should have moved.

Silence

P: Merciful God,

C: For the wrong we have done, for the good we have failed to do, have mercy on us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: People of God, look to the ✠ Son, given to heal you and set you free because God loved the world so much. Take hold of life—eternal life!

C: Amen.

SONG

“Let the Lower Lights Keep Burning”

**Brightly beams our Father's mercy from His lighthouse evermore,
But to us He gives the keeping of the lights along the shore.**

Refrain

**Let the lower lights be burning, send a gleam across the wave!
Some poor fainting, struggling seaman you may rescue, you may save**

**Dark the night of sin has settled, loud the angry billows roar;
Eager eyes are watching, longing, for the lights, along the shore. *Refrain***

**Trim your feeble lamp, my brother, some poor sailor tempest tossed
Trying now to make the harbor, in the darkness may be lost. Refrain Pubic domain**

GREETING

ELW pg.156

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

see insert

P: O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The congregation is invited to sit

READING

Romans 4:13-25

see insert

P: The lesson is from Romans, the 4th chapter.

¹³The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. ¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” ²³Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification

P: The word of the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

The congregation is invited to stand

GOSPEL

Mark 8:31-38

see insert

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 8th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

³¹[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." ³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

P: The gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

The congregation is invited to sit

SERMON

Pastor Jeff Steeber

The congregation is invited to stand

SONG OF THE DAY "The Old Gospel Ship"

I have good news to bring and that is why I sing

All my joys with you I'll share

I'm going to take a trip in that old gospel ship

And go sailing through the air

Refrain

I'm going to take a trip in that old gospel ship

I'm going far beyond the sky

I'm gonna shout and sing till the heavens ring

When I bid this world good-bye

**I can scarcely wait, I know I won't be late
I'll spend my time in prayer
And when the ship comes in I'll leave this world of sin
And go sailing through the air *Refrain***

**If you are ashamed of me you ought not to be
Yes, you'd better have a care
If too much fault you find you'll sure be left behind
While I'm sailing through the air *Refrain***

Recorded by the Carter Family
Written by A.P. Carter

APOSTLES' CREED

ELW pg. 105

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.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Everyone is invited to gather around the altar for the remainder of the service. As you come forward, you may place your offering in the offering plate on the stand. After the singing of "Jesus, Lamb of God," those receiving communion will be invited to kneel or stand next to the communion railing. All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Communion is by intinction: receive the bread, dip the bread into the cup, then consume the body and blood of Christ. If you are unable to come forward, Holy Communion can be brought to you.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

ELW pg.161

P: Renewed in the promises of baptism, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence

P: We pray for the church. Make us bold to proclaim your love. Give us courage to carry the cross that confronts us each day and follow Christ. Strengthen pastors, bishops, deacons, and all who minister in your name. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: We pray for the world. For flowing streams and still waters. For urban parks and wilderness reserves. For pastures and forests. Instill within us a reverence for the earth as your creation and our fragile home. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: We pray for the nations. Teach us to honor our common humanity within diversity. Turn enemies into friends. Lead us away from hatred, fear, and misunderstanding. Show our hearts the way to peace and fill us with compassion. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: We pray for those in need. For people whose struggles we fail to acknowledge. For those who leave their homes and families in search of safety or employment. For those who grieve, and for all who are ill *especially*... Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: We pray for this assembly. For those who prepare this space for worship. For ministries of fellowship and hospitality. For those preparing for baptism or confirmation, and for all who provide care and support to those who are homebound. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: We remember with thanksgiving those who have gone before us in the faith. Bring them to the fullness of their inheritance in Christ and into the joy of eternal life with you. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Trusting in your covenant of mercy, O God, we lift our prayers to you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: As we gather around this table tonight, we remember how 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

ELW pg.163

C: 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.

LAMB OF GOD

“Jesus, Lamb of God”

Jesus, Lamb of God,

Worthy is your name;

Jesus, Lamb of God,

Worthy is your name. *Repeat*

COMMUNION

The congregation is invited to stand

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ELW pg.164

P: Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

ELW pg.164

P: May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you ☩ peace.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG “Great Speckled Bird”

**What a beautiful thought I am thinking
Concerning the Great Speckled Bird
Remember her name is recorded
On the pages of God’s holy word**

**Desiring to lower her standards
They watch every move that she makes
They love to find fault with her teachings
But really they find no mistakes**

**I am glad that I learned of her meekness
I am glad that my name is on her books
For I want to be never fearing
On the face of the Savior to look**

**When Christ comes descending from Heaven
On a cloud as he writes in his word
I’ll be joyfully carried to meet him
On the wings of the Great Speckled Bird**

CCLI Song # 473894
Elmo W. Mercer ©
1965 New Spring (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music
Publishing, Inc.)
*For use solely with the SongSelect Terms of Use. All
rights reserved. www.ccli.com*
CCLI License # 2032159

DISMISSAL

ELW pg.164

P: Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2014 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #45713. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

32747 Lake Road

Avon Lake, Ohio 44012

Phone: (440) 933-6263

celc.mainoffice@gmail.com www.christlutheranavonlake.org

Pastor: Jeff Steeber revsteeber@gmail.com

Office Administrator: Heather Nordman

Organist: Randi Smarsh Custodian: Bill Higgins