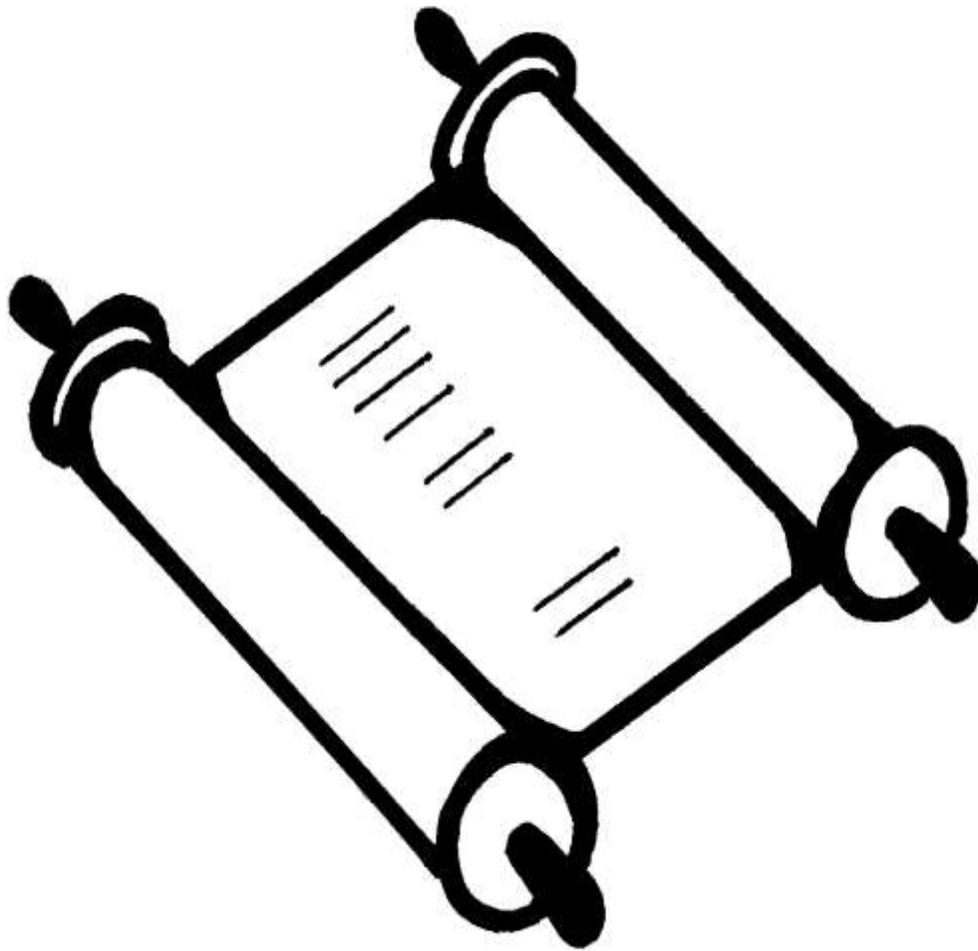




Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

Sunday, February 12, 2017

6th Sunday after the Epiphany



ALL ARE WELCOME HERE!

Christ Lutheran Church Mission Statement: *“Gospel In Action: Caring for all God’s children, we shall serve God through worship, learning, and sharing.”*

WORSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to worship - Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church (CELC) is a congregation of the Northeastern Ohio Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), a part of the worldwide Lutheran community. Our order for worship is printed on the following pages of this bulletin. We invite you to join us regularly for worship and in a variety of activities and opportunities in our congregational life. If you are new here, we welcome you; if you are a member of long standing, we celebrate your gifts and ministry.

New to CELC - We are happy to have you with us and we wish you a warm welcome. If you would like more information about our church and its ministries, please look for a member of the Welcoming Team by the TV after the service for information and a gift. Please take a few minutes to view the announcements displayed on the TV in the gathering area.

For those with children - We encourage you to have your children participate in worship. They learn about worship and faith by being involved. If you or your children need a break, we have a nursery room available with your supervision. If you need assistance, an usher will happily direct you to the nursery. Coloring and activity bags are available just outside the sanctuary doors.

Holy Communion - The sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated each week at CELC. All are welcome to receive this gift of God's grace, love, and forgiveness. All who hunger to know the love of God are welcome to commune with us. The table of our Lord is now set for all those who need grace, forgiveness, strength, and wisdom for ministry and mission to the world. If you are unable to come forward, Holy Communion can be brought to your seat. If you wish to come forward to receive a blessing, you are encouraged to do so. Gluten-free crackers and grape juice are available for those with dietary needs. If you have questions about the sacrament, or if you wish to receive instruction on the Christian faith, you are invited to speak with Pastor Jeff following the service.

This Sunday, February 12

Greeter: Klenz Family, **Usher:** Chip Crout, **Lector:** Eric Mohney, **Acolytes:** Connor Kacenjar and Julia Kacenjar, **Cantor:** Susan Frantz, **Assists:** Cantor, Sharon Davidson, Anita Hlava, and Acolytes, **Altar:** Jan Wunderle

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

The congregation is invited to stand

INVOCATION

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who stretches out the heavens, who sends light to the nations, who gives breath to us all.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The congregation is invited to stand, kneel or sit in silence for reflection and self-examination

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Loving God,

C: We confess that we have turned from your way to follow our own ways. Forgive us for the times we have spoken or acted too quickly; we have not spoken or acted at all; we have hurt those closest to us; we have hurt those we have yet to know; we have thought more about ourselves than others; we have thought less of ourselves than we ought. Turn us around, and give us a fresh start, so that we can live again as your children. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen

The congregation is invited to stand

GATHERING HYMN:

Come Down, O Love Divine

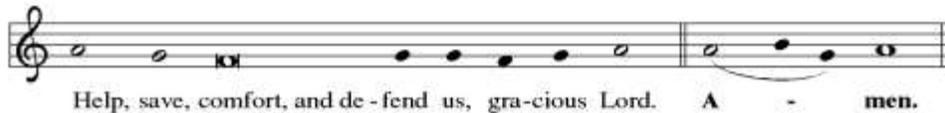
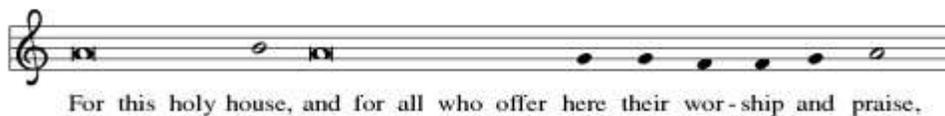
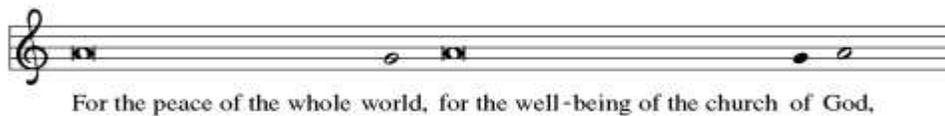
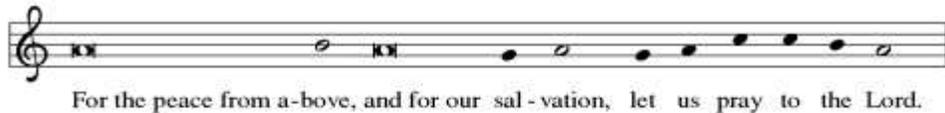
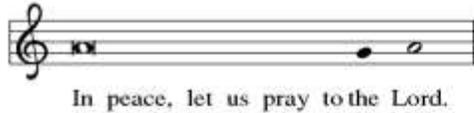
ELW 804

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.

KYRIE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. O God,

C: The strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The congregation is invited to sit

FIRST LESSON: DEUTERONOMY 30:15-20

L: The first lesson is from Deuteronomy, the 30th chapter.

[Moses said to the people:] 15See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. 16If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. 17But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, 18I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. 19I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, 20loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

L: The word of the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

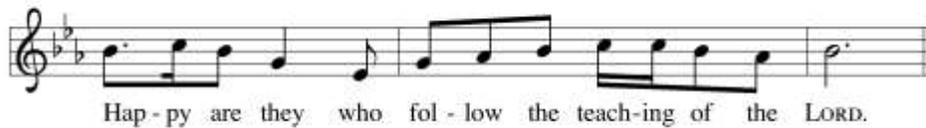
PSALM: 119:1-8

TONE



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REFRAIN



Psalm 119:1
Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress
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- ¹Happy are they whose | way is blameless,
who follow the teaching | of the LORD!
- ²**Happy are they who observe | your decrees**
and seek you with | all their hearts,
- ³who never do | any wrong,
but always walk | in your ways.
- ⁴**You laid down | your commandments,**
that we should | fully keep them. R
- ⁵Oh, that my ways were made | so direct
that I might | keep your statutes!
- ⁶**Then I should not be | put to shame,**
when I regard all | your commandments.
- ⁷I will thank you with | a true heart,
when I have learned your | righteous judgments.
- ⁸**I will | keep your statutes;**
do not utter- | ly forsake me. R

SECOND LESSON: 1 CORINTHIANS 3:1-9

L: The second lesson is from 1 Corinthians, the 3rd chapter.

1 Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. 2 I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, 3 for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? 4 For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human? 5 What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. 6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. 7 So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. 8 The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. 9 For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

L: The word of the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

The congregation is invited to stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 5:21-37

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 5th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 21 "You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder'; and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.'

22But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire. 23So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, 24leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. 25Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. 26Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny. 27'You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' 28But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. 29If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. 30And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell. 31'It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' 32But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery. 33'Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.' 34But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, 35or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. 36And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. 37Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one.'

P: The gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

The congregation is invited to sit

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Pastor Jeff Steeber

The congregation is invited to stand

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Called to be a light to the nations, let us pray for God's justice, peace, and healing.

A brief silence

A: Holy Lord, you alone are God. Remove jealousy and quarreling between Christian denominations. Hold us in the unity of our baptism as we work together to serve you. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: You called into being the first fruits of the earth. Guide gardeners and farmers who till the soil and tend the fields. Bless their work and in due season bring forth the bounty of the land. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Merciful Lord, your love knows no bounds. Break down barriers caused by nationalism. Challenge our stereotypes. Give us courage to engage in difficult conversations with those whose experiences are different from our own. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Pour out your Holy Spirit on all who struggle especially... Ease the pain of families affected by divorce. Grant life-giving work to all who seek employment. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: You know every hair on our heads. Yet we do not even know each of our neighbors. Equip our outreach ministry and this assembly to get to know the people in our community. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Eternal Lord, you are the God of our ancestors in faith. You are our God. Keep us faithful until we join all the saints at your heavenly banquet. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Receive these prayers in the name of Christ, the light of the world, who is one with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

The congregation is invited to sit

OFFERING

The congregation is invited to stand

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Merciful God, receive the gifts we bring, our selves, our time, and our possessions. Through this meal unite us as your body, shining with the light of your justice and mercy; for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has two measures. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.', 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.', 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has two measures, the second has two measures, the third has two measures, and the fourth has two measures. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,', 'heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.', 'Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes', and 'in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

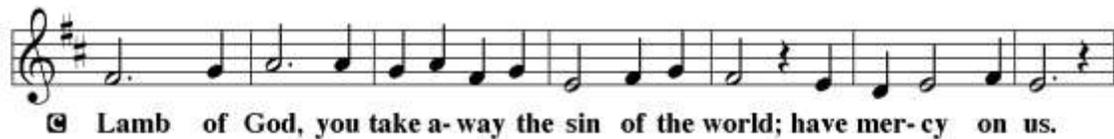
P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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

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



The congregation is invited to sit

COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMNS:

<i>Healer of Our Every Ill</i>	ELW 612
<i>The Church's One Foundation</i>	ELW 654
<i>The Lord's My Shepherd</i>	ELW 778

The congregation is invited to stand

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray.

C: Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

P: The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

C: Amen.

P: The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The God of all grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN:

Lord, Your Hands Have Formed

ELW 554

DISMISSAL

A: Sisters and Brothers in Christ...

C: As the Gospel in action, go in peace. Remember the Poor! Thanks be to God!

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SERMON NOTES

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