



CELC Weekly Gospel in Action Moments

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church



**For the week of
Sunday, December 3, 2023
First Sunday of Advent**

Welcome to Worship

✚ **We are happy to have you with us** and wish you a warm welcome. If you would like more information about our church and its ministries, please contact our church office, 440-933-6263.

✚ **Attention families:** 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 Wiggle Beach off to the left of the sanctuary. If you need assistance, an usher will happily direct you.

✚ **We honor our military among us.** Please lift in prayer all who serve in the military, past and present, along with their loved ones. Currently serving: Marty Koch, Coast Guard.

Prayers

✚ **For prayer requests** please fill out a prayer request form found in the gathering area and place it in the offering plate during the service, contact Sharon Davidson at 440-933-3923, skid440@yahoo.com or contact the church office.

Benevolence Update

✚ **The votes have been counted for our Benevolence recipients.** Our four organizations for 2024 are: CRS, Haven Center, Redeemer Crisis Center, and ELCA Northeast Ohio Synod

Congregation News

✚ Please keep praying for the Holy Spirit's guidance in all. **Unite in prayer together**, wherever you are and whatever you're doing, at **8:26 p.m. Wednesdays.**

✚ **Ryan Smarsh will stay after church today** to take pictures of church members who need assistance with their photo for the online directory. Photos will be submitted to Heather in the office.

✚ **If you would like to bring in a poinsettia** you can do so starting Sunday, December 10 and can be taken home with you after Christmas Day.

✚ **Annual holiday food packing** at Cleveland's Redeemer Crisis Center will be on Friday, December 15. Food packing will begin at 7 p.m. We need 16 volunteers for our group. Please see Ryan Smarsh with any questions and with your RSVP.

✚ **When the Church Stops Working** book study/discussion group will begin after worship, on Sunday, January 7 and continue through Sunday, February 11. A meal will be provided. This opportunity is open to all, including our youth and parents of young children. In order to make this possible, our Christian Education grant includes a \$50 stipend for one adult and one youth to share a Biblical theme and craft to do with the children. This is an opportunity for a parent and a youth who are planning to go on the ASP Mission Trip to raise funds for their trip. Please contact Pastor Laura or Susan Frantz (937-725-0969) if you are interested in the study group or providing childcare.

✚ **When the Church Stops Working: A Future for Your Congregation beyond More Money, Programs, and Innovation** by Andrew Root and Blair Bertrand is the focus of our Winter Book Study/Discussion Group. This book is highly recommended by our Bishop, and it is the fuel of our Northeastern Ohio Synod's Assembly spiritual experience on Saturday, June 1, 2024. We urge all our church leaders and members to read and take part. Please sign-up in the Narthex, or contact Pastor Laura or Susan Frantz (937-725-0969), so that we can order your book. If you cannot attend the study/discussion group, but would like to read the book, please note. Thank you to the saints who gave endowments for our congregation's continued Christian Education nurturing, and to the Grant Committee for making this growth in our faith effort possible!

2024 Solar Eclipse Committee

✚ **In April of 2024, our community will experience an influx of visitors** to view a total eclipse. Avon Lake is within the Centerline of Totality, which means our community creates "the best seat in the house" for viewing. The city is working diligently on plans for this event as this will impact our city and

ALL ARE WELCOME HERE

the resources we have. Our church needs to start making plans to best serve our community and members during this time. The council is seeking volunteers who would be interested in being part of a committee to do just that. Please see any member of council for more information.

CELC Preschool Help Needed

‡ Christ Lutheran Preschool will be hosting a Parent Education Event on Tuesday, December 5 at 7p.m. The parents are invited to bring in their Christmas gifts and volunteers will wrap them while they are in the meeting. We are looking for our members to donate wrapping paper, supplies as well volunteers to wrap gifts. A free will donation will be collected and donated to CRS. Please contact Pastor Laura with any questions.

‡ Our preschool, Christ Lutheran Preschool, is in search of someone to clean the classrooms during the winter months. Our current person is heading to a warmer climate to escape the cold and we need someone to take over from January through March. The position takes around 2 hours a day and includes taking out the trash and recycling, cleaning 2 bathrooms, vacuuming and sweeping 4 classrooms, and generally making the rooms look and feel clean. This temporary position pays \$11.00 per hour. Please contact Teri Pienoski, the Preschool Administrator, at the preschool at 440-933-6714 for more information.

Congregation Calendar

Sunday, December 3

1st Sunday in Advent

10:00 a.m. Holy Worship

10:00 a.m. Prek-6 Grade Sunday School

11:30 a.m. Choir practice

Tuesday, December 5

7:00 p.m. Preschool Parent Night and

Volunteers needed to wrap gifts

Wednesday, December 6

6:15 p.m. Bell Choir

8:26 p.m. Unite in Prayer

Friday, December 8

Pastor's day off

Sunday, December 10

2nd Sunday in Advent

10:00 a.m. Holy Worship

10:00 a.m. Prek-6 Grade Sunday School

Christ Lutheran Preschool

Monday-Friday 9 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.

Good Kids Childcare Calendar

Monday-Friday 7a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Worship Assistants and Volunteers

December 3

Usher: Ryan Smarsh

Lector: Beth Lecorchick

Cantor: Julie Pressnell

Live Stream: Bill Higgins

Altar Care: Marilyn Culler

Bulletin Folding: Marilyn Culler

SS Teachers: Melissa and Katie

Bread Maker: Marilyn Culler

Advent Readers: Tim N. and Brenda C.

December 10

Usher: Brian Knip

Lector: Sharon Davidson

Cantor: Pastor Laura

Live Stream: Bill Higgins

Counter: Julie Skaggs

Altar Care: Marilyn Culler

Bulletin Folding: Marilyn Culler

SS Teachers: Barb and Julie

Bread Maker: Kelly Pedersen

Advent Readers: Marylin C. and Nadine C.

December 17

Usher: Ryan Smarsh

Lector: Frank Lee

Cantor: Michelle Young

Live Stream: Bill Higgins

Altar Care: Marilyn Culler

Bulletin Folding: Marilyn Culler

SS Teachers: Marilyn and Julie

Bread Maker: Nadine Carlson

Advent Readers: Dale and Becky Guthman

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Interim Pastor: Rev. Laura Kuntz

Office Administrator: Heather Nordman

Organist: Randi Smarsh Custodians: Bill Higgins and Beth Lecorchick