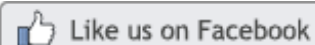


Greetings!

Welcome to Christ Lutheran e-news, a weekly electronic newsletter which highlights programs and activities of our congregation. Feel free to [share with family and friends](#).



Christ Lutheran Church

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Members of our local community received gift boxes over the weekend with small items chosen to help knit our community closer together during the seasons of Advent and Christmas, even while we must remain physically apart. A Thrivent Action Team grant supported the project. We hope that you enjoy them!



Thanks go especially to Lydia Roberts, who folded more than 50 Moravian stars for the boxes, and to delivery assistants Dorothy Nail, Mary Pollard, Jeff Kinney, Carol Virshbo, Lisa Chan, Hannele Saramo-Raja, and Joyce Simon.

Advent Hours for Meditation

The church nave, adorned for Advent with wreaths and banners, will be open for personal devotion and meditation Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays during Advent. The hours are as follows:

Tuesdays (December 8, 15, and 22): 2-4 pm
Wednesdays (December 2, 9, 16, and 23) 11-1
Fridays (December 4, 11, and 18) 5-7 pm

If you would like to use this sacred space, and none of these times is compatible with your schedule, please contact Pr. Bourret to make other arrangements.

Announcements

We have received word that a family connected with the Metrowest Immigration Solidarity Network is in need of a car so that the mom can get to her new job, which starts Friday. If you have one you might be willing to donate, or know someone who does, please contact Pr. Bourret or Rolf Larson. Please note: this would not qualify as a charitable donation, but would be a direct gift to the family.

Music Notes

Tom Berryman, Music Director

Sunday's Prelude features Gail Weston-Roberts singing Hildegard of Bingen's Magnificat antiphon *O fronden virga*. Writer, abbess, scientist, visionary, musician, advisor to kings, popes and emperors, Hildegard (1098-1179) was also a prolific composer of chant, often basing the text on her visions. Hildegard's music is a perfect accompaniment to meditation, especially during the Advent season.



Here is a translation of *O frondens*:

*O blooming branch,
you stand upright in your nobility,
as breaks the dawn on high:
Rejoice now and be glad,
and deign to free us, frail and weakened,
from the wicked habits of our age;
stretch forth your hand
to lift us up aright.*

Please check here [for a performance of "O frondens Virga"](#) by the professional singing group, Chanticleer recorded January 30, 2014 at The Mariinsky Theater, St. Petersburg, Russia.

Adult Formation



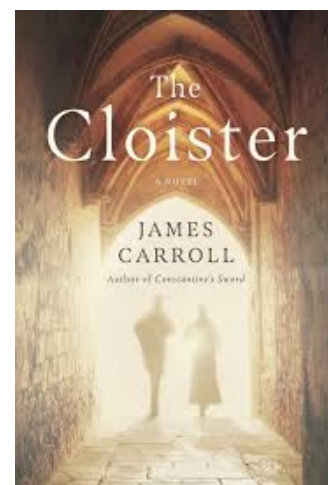
Advent Agape Meals continue each Sunday of Advent, beginning at 9:00am, and concluding no later than 9:45am. Brew a "cuppa," toast a bagel, or warm up the last of your apple pie, and join your siblings on Zoom for music and prayer, Scripture and conversation.

CLC Book Group Monday, December 7, 7:30 pm

For its latest selection, the book group is reading *The Cloister*, James Carroll's compelling novel that moves from twelfth century Paris and the ill-fated love of Héloïse and Abelard to twentieth century New York and the developing friendship of Father Michael Kavanaugh and museum docent, Rachel Vedette.

"Spanning centuries and continents, *The Cloister* tells the story of four characters ahead of their time, questioning faith, identity, and love against a background of historical upheaval."

Contact Marianne Swenson, mwsenson10@comcast.net to be added to the meeting.



Call to Action

Saturday, December 5, 7:00 - 8:30pm



KEEPING THE PROMISE 2020

Join us for a night of inspirational seasonal music with Livingston Taylor, James Montgomery, Ellis Paul, Chris Trapper, Phil Stacy and many local favorites.

In place of our annual Keep the Promise gala, we are bringing our supporters together virtually to enjoy sounds of the season, hear from some of our families in our program and to continue keeping the promise to support families facing homelessness. Click here to [learn more about the concert and to register for the show](#)

Order take out dinner from one of our partnering restaurants, Burtons Grill in Framingham, call in your order 774-540-6005 or order online at Lombardo's To Go.

We also have our [20 for 20 Raffle to win \\$5000](#) and our Keep the Promise Online Auction on November 23. Please join us in celebration on December 5th. It will be a fun, festive and inspiring evening and we hope to see you then.



Some of you have followed the saga of CLC's "ingathering" of quilts, health kits, and more for Lutheran World Relief, originally scheduled for May, rescheduled for September due to the pandemic, and further interrupted by COVID and the worst tropical storm season on record, so that dozens and boxes of supplies have waited in our narthex for months! At long last, **the truck will arrive this Friday, December 4, and boxes will be loaded from 10am - 12pm.** The driver is able to do any heavy lifting, so contact Pr. Bourret if you can help!

There's just a week remaining to make Christmas cards for migrants in detention

It takes such a small (and enjoyable!) effort to bring a glimmer of hope to some of our siblings held in ICE detention, far from home and family. Drop your creations by the parsonage or CLC-you may use the blue plastic book tote by the front door-by December 8, and Pr. Bourret will send them off to Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service for distribution. For ideas and instructions, click [here](#).



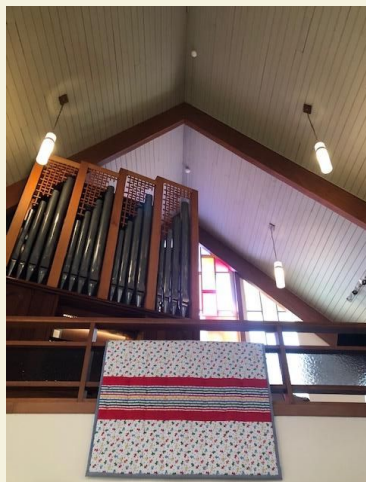
Looking Ahead



Hum along under the Christmas tree!

Sunday, **December 13** is Santa Lucia Day, the perfect occasion to gather under the outdoor Christmas tree, watch the lights brighten, and hum along to favorite Christmas carols. If the weather permits, bells will ring. The event starts at 5:00pm. Thanks to Audrey Colson for providing the (large) tree, Bruce Schnepfer for tree-set up, and to Tom Berryman for imagining and overseeing the festivities.

The National Lutheran Choir will offer a Christmas Festival Program, The Incarnation: For the Healing of the World, on Friday, December 11 at 8:00 p.m CST (9:00 our time)-a gift to us all as we welcome Christ into our pandemic-ridden lives. For more information, click [here](#).



READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Second Week of Advent

December 1, 2020

John calls people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing gets in the way of the Lord's coming. The reading from Isaiah gives the context for this radical call: the assurance of forgiveness that encourages us to repent; the promise that the coming one will be gentle with the little ones. Isaiah calls us all to be heralds with John, to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, "See, your God is coming!" We say it to one another in worship, in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.

First Reading
Isiah 40:1-11

Psalm
Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

Second Reading
2 Peter 3:8-15a

Gospel
Mark 1:1-8

Sing For Joy

Enhance your understanding of the weekly scripture readings by listening to [Sing For Joy](#) from St. Olaf College. The Sing For Joy radio program, produced by St. Olaf College, has a simple mission: to explore the weekly themes of Christian worship by providing the best in sacred choral music and thoughtful commentary. The musical performances eloquently "do the talking," while the concise remarks from host Pastor Bruce Benson illuminate the meaning of the texts.

Do you have information for our weekly e-news?

Please be in touch by [email](#) if you have news to include.

STAY CONNECTED:



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