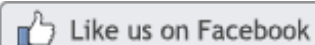


Greetings!

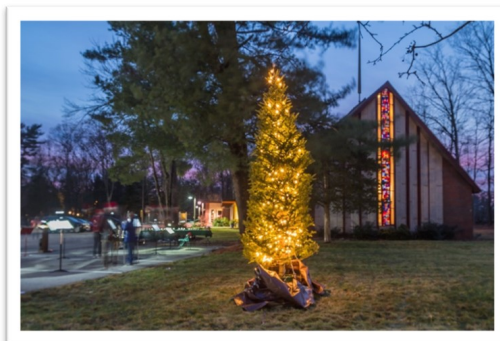
Welcome to Christ Lutheran e-news, a weekly electronic newsletter which highlights programs and activities of our congregation. Feel free to [share with family and friends](#).



Christ Lutheran Church

113 Union Street
Natick, MA 01760

Phone: 508-315-3170
www.Christnatick.org
Email: office@Christnatick.org



On the feast day of St. Lucy, the 4th-century martyr said to have wreathed her head in candles to free both hands to deliver food to Christians hiding in Roman catacombs. CLC brought a bit of light and joy into this season of hope with a tree-lighting and carol-humming celebration. About 40 people gathered shortly after sunset to hum along to carols chimed by the CLC Bell Choir.

The celebration of Saint Lucy's Day is said to help one live the winter days with enough light, and indeed this little gathering will coax us through the long winter ahead.

Many thanks to Kim Petot and the Bell Choir for leading the songs, Audrey Colson for providing the tree and Bruce Schnepfer for getting it erected and lighted, and especially to Tom Berryman, who generated the idea and pulled a thousand details together!





Hannah Kinney is using a Thrivent Action Team grant to support Kimberly Gunner, who was seriously injured in a hit-and-run accident this past August. Monday-Wednesday, while supplies last, make a contribution in any amount (\$5 suggested), and receive a free slice of pepperoni or cheese pizza from Bill's on East Central Street in Natick (just down the road from CLC). Hannah and Kimberly worked there together several years ago.



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 15, and 22): 2-4 pm

Wednesdays (December 16, and 23) 11-1

Fridays (December 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.

Music Notes

Tom Berryman, Music Director

The music for **Sunday, December 20** will be led by cantor, Kim Petot and a Jazz Trio: Ross Petot, piano, John Clark, clarinet and saxophone, Peter Tillotson, bass. Kim and the Trio recorded the music in November at CLC with audio editor, Anders Carlson. Come early to hear the Prelude, "*Every little star*" by Jerome Kern and stay for the Postlude, "*Let it snow*" by Jules Styne and Sammy Cahn. What a gift these fine musicians bring to our services, refreshing the sound of our hymns and liturgy.

Youth

Calling CLC young people: On Christmas Eve, Christ Lutheran Church will gather by Zoom for a service of lessons and carols. We are looking for readers to offer several of the nine Scriptures that evening. Would you consider? Contact Gail Weston-Roberts or Pr. Bourret if you're willing to read one. Thank you!

Adult Formation



This **Sunday, December 20**, we'll have the last of our Advent Agape Meals via Zoom. All are welcome to join in this time for music and prayer, scripture and holy conversation, while enjoying a simple "feast" of pastry and coffee, or whatever you like. Watch for your invitation and come at 9:00 on Sunday, just before worship.

The CLC Monthly Reporter

At its conception in the seventies, the *Reporter* was meant to be an instrument to keep our community abreast of events, on-going programming, and as a testament to our mission of engagement. Currently, we find ourselves at a place in time where information is available at lightning speed. Updates and events can be broadcast via email instantly to an almost infinite number of people. We have a weekly newsletter that provides a platform for our internal committee work and community partners to disseminate timely,

relevant, and mission-driven information. As it evolves, our newly launched website is meant to be both a useful tool for church members as well as a dynamic portal representing our leadership and strategic direction.

Staff have made the decision to discontinue the monthly *Reporter*. We will still be posting and providing the information contained within it but we hope to do so maximizing our other information platforms: email, the website and the weekly newsletter.

Before we cease publication of the *Reporter* we are eager to hear from you about what features you would like to see included in future communications. [Click here for a quick survey of your interests](#) Please participate so we can have a critical mass of voices.

Call to Action

It's not too late to make purchases of ELCA Good Gifts to support World Hunger efforts. Options start at \$10 for things like chicks or a mosquito net to \$2500 for a water well. You could show a sense of humor with a goat or a pig for those on your "nice" list, or with manure or a latrine for those on your "naughty" list. Click [here](#) for more information.



Looking Ahead



This **Sunday, December 20th** will be a jazz service. If you know of someone who might especially enjoy participating, ask Pr. Bourret for the Zoom link to be sent to them.

There will be two different worship services to celebrate the Nativity of our Lord. On **Christmas Eve, at 5:00 p.m.**, we'll offer a service of nine lessons and carols, incorporating some Christmas poetry as well. Plan to have a candle ready to light as we sing "Silent Night," or use the Moravian candle that was delivered at the start of Advent.

On **Christmas morning at 10:00** there will be a service with Scripture, prayers, sermon and hymns, similar to our Sunday morning Zoom worship.



If you have friends or family who traditionally worship on Christmas Eve or Day, but who are not members of a congregation, this is an excellent time to invite them to Christ. Let Pr. Bourret know if there are folks who should receive a Zoom link to join us.

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Fourth Week of Advent

December 20, 2020

God keeps the promise made to David to give him an everlasting throne. The angel tells Mary that God will give David's throne to her son Jesus. She is perplexed by Gabriel's greeting and by the news of her coming pregnancy, but she is able still to say, "Count me in." We who know that Jesus is called king only as he is executed still find it a mystery hard to fathom, but with Mary today we hear the news of what God is up to and say, "Count us in."

First Reading

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Psalm

What Child is This ELW 296

Second Reading

Romans 16:25-27

Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

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.

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