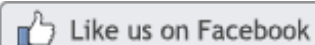


Greetings!

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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After a year that has been trying, to put it mildly, 2021 began on a very disturbing note as well, when insurrectionists besieged the US Capitol. Tomorrow Joseph Biden and Kamala Harris will be inaugurated as our new President and Vice President, respectively.

Let us all join in prayer for our nation and all its elected officials, and recommit ourselves to exercising our citizenship rights responsibly and in accordance with the dictates of our faith.

These prayers come from a new resource from Augsburg Fortress,
All Creation Sings:

Sovereign God, your Son Jesus lived within the structures of society even as he spoke truth to those in power and challenged systems of oppression. Empower us to be courageous disciples and responsible citizens. Grant that our life in the public realm be grounded in love for our neighbors, care for the most vulnerable in our midst, and respect for the common life we share, following the example of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Gracious God, we pray for our public servants Joseph and Kamala, Charlie, and all local, state, and federal elected leaders, that they do their work in a spirit of wisdom, charity, and justice. Inspire them to use their authority to serve faithfully and to promote our common life. Guide our leaders to govern in such a way that all people enjoy a peaceful and just society. In Jesus' name we pray.

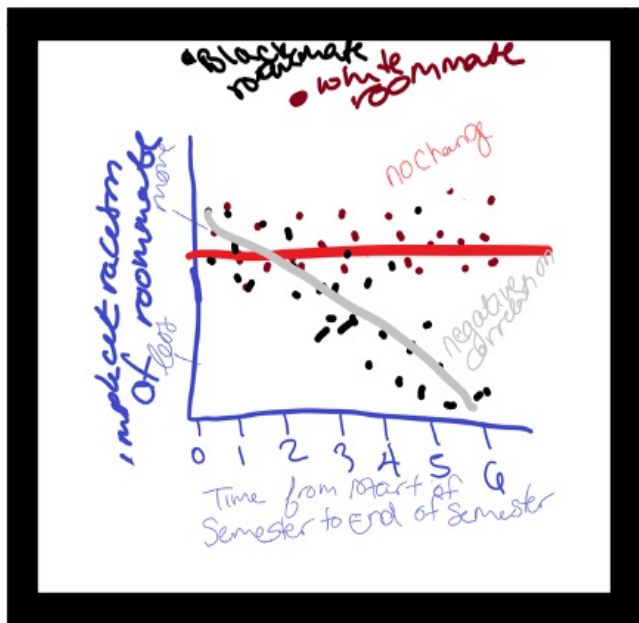
Amen.

Music Notes

Tom Berryman, Music Director

Epiphany is a season of light in the church year, coming at just the right time when the days are lengthening and darkness is receding. Epiphany hymns often include references to stars, light, brightness and hope: "How brightly shines the morning star," "What star is this," "This little light of mine," and for this coming Sunday, "We are marching in the light of God" or "Siyahamba." "Siyahamba" is one of numbers of South African freedom songs that became especially well known in the 1960's following the horrible Sharpsville massacre in 1960. Swedish musician Anders Nyberg collected and transcribed many of these songs under the auspices of the Church of Sweden Mission and the Lutheran World Federation. "Siyahamba" is surely one of the most frequently included of these songs in North American hymnals and will be our Hymn of the Day this **Sunday, January 24.**

Adult Formation



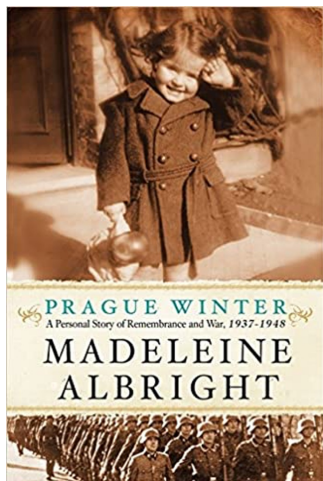
Adult Formation

Participation has been growing in the Sunday Adult Forum, which **convenes via Zoom Sundays at 9:00am**, one hour prior to worship. With the conviction that the work for racial justice must be a movement, and not just a moment, we've been watching short videos on implicit bias, and discussing how we not only recognize it, but also take steps to arrest it.

For this Sunday, we're asking folks to take a self-administered test on implicit bias-it takes just a few minutes-and come prepared to talk about it. Here's the link to get started:

<https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html>

Please note: we will no longer send a second invitation to a separate Zoom meeting; instead, simply join the worship "meeting" at 9:00am if you'd like to participate.



CLC BOOK GROUP

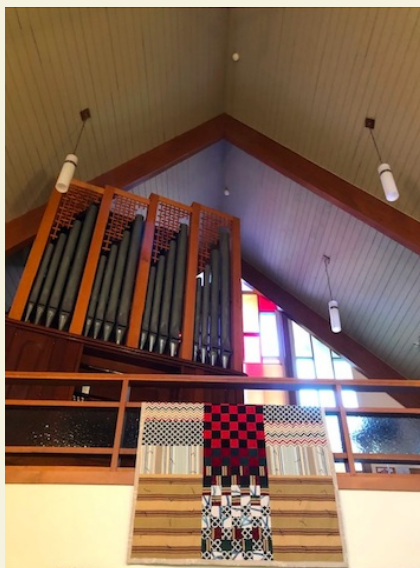
"Before Madeleine Albright turned twelve, her life was shaken by the Nazi invasion of Czechoslovakia, the country where she was born, the Battle of Britain, the near total destruction of European Jewry, the Allied victory in World War II, the rise of communism, and the onset of the Cold War. Drawing on her memory, her parents' written reflections, interviews with contemporaries, and newly available documents, Albright recounts a tale that is by turns harrowing and inspiring. *Prague Winter* is an exploration of the past with timeless dilemmas in mind and, simultaneously, a journey with universal lessons that is intensely personal." Goodreads.

CLC BOOK GROUP, Monday, January 25, 7:30 p.m.

Call to Action

The Worship, Music, and Visual Arts Committee (WMVA) will be compiling packets for each CLC household to aid in our observance of Lent, Holy Week, and Easter (likely two packets). Are you willing to help deliver 5-10 packets, either once or twice? Please let Pr. Bourret or Phil Roberts know.





In the West, Easter is celebrated on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the vernal equinox, which means that it falls on April 4 this year—relatively early; and Ash Wednesday comes forty days earlier, on February 17. Watch for the delivery of packets to aid in your observance of this holy, penitential season.



Christ Lutheran Church will meet via Zoom for our first 2021 semi-annual congregational meeting on **Sunday, February 7**, following worship. The primary purpose will be to approve a budget for 2021. We'll also hear a bit about some exciting new endeavors for the year ahead. All voting members (those confirmed who have received Communion in the current or previous year and who have made a contribution of record) are urged to participate.

All who participate in the life of the congregation are welcome to attend.

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK
January 24, 2021

Readings and Psalm

First Reading
Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Psalm
Psalm 62:5-12

Second Reading
1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Gospel
Mark 1:14-20

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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