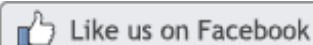


Greetings!

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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Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday, February 17th**, just one week from tomorrow. Some were raised to imagine this holy season as a singularly somber time of self-contempt and even shame. While we begin on a penitential note, confessing our personal sin and complicity with the world's brokenness, our posture throughout these forty days is to turn-again-toward God "who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love," a re-orientation toward our loving, heavenly parent, who longs to save us from our fears and sorrows, and, yes, sin and death.

Packets with a few items, including ashes for Ash Wednesday, will be delivered between Sunday and

Tuesday of next week.

Music Notes

Tom Berryman, Music Director



We often celebrate the Last Sunday of Epiphany, Transfiguration Sunday, using the *Of the Land and Seasons* liturgy. This year, for **Sunday, February 14**, members of our Land and Seasons band and our CLC voices will lead the music, offering hymns the "Morning has broken" and "I heard the voice of Jesus say" during the service. The players are also preparing some wonderful Prelude and Postlude music in the bluegrass and Appalachian traditions. So, come early on Sunday and stick around for a few minutes afterwards to hear some delightful, toe-tapping flute, mandolin, hammered dulcimer, viola and guitar playing from Anne Weaver, Gail Weston-Roberts, Linda Beck, Joan Ellersick and Jim Nail.

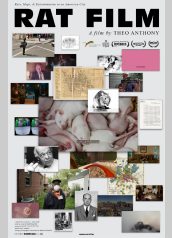
Our younger members from CLC did a terrific job reading some of the lessons on Christmas Eve. Gail is contacting youth about reading, or otherwise creatively presenting some of the readings for the Easter Vigil. Watch for a text or listen for a call!

Adult Formation

Adult Forum

As part of our ongoing discussion about implicit bias and systemic racism, this week in the adult forum we'll see the second part of *The Rat Film*, a sometimes disturbing documentary about rats in Baltimore, and the intersection of infestation and systemic racism. We "meet" at 9:00 a.m. Sunday, February 14th by signing in an hour early to the worship link on Zoom.

Watch the [trailer](#).



On President's Day, Monday February 15, 9:30am to 12:00 pm, we invite you to join us for an ONLINE mini-retreat to consider how we as a nation can come together as a united people. We will use Amanda Gorman's Inauguration Poem, "The Hill We Climb" to guide our conversation, using the spiritual practice of [lectio divina](#) to contemplatively share how her powerful words give us new vision for the new year, for the next 4 years, as we come together in unity to overcome the pandemic, the divisions, and the "isms" that seek to tear us apart as a nation.

To register, click [here](#).
A Zoom login will be sent upon registration.

Call to Action

CLC's scheduled Family Promise Host week is coming right up, February 21 - 28, 2021.

As you may know, FPM plans on keeping families in the shelter program housed in hotels for the foreseeable future, most likely until 2022. At CLC we are hoping to create a pool of money to be used for GROCERIES ONLY during our scheduled host weeks in 2021 (February, June, November). Checks in any amount may be sent directly to Christ Lutheran, 113 Union St., Natick, to the attention of Family Promise Grocery Fund. Please make the check payable to CLC, with Family Promise in the memo line. Any questions or concerns should be directed to either Mary Avalos or Robin Hurst (CLC FPM Coordinators). Thanks so much to all for your continued support of this important ministry!

Thanks to all for good participation in Sunday's semi-annual meeting, and especially to Edie Lohr and John Whitlock for their careful preparation and fine presentations.

We also heard from Rolf and Celeste Larson about the exploration of and early fund-raising for the welcoming of an asylee family. If you hadn't had a chance before the meeting to review the documents presented, please do so, think about how you may be able to contribute time, compassion, and expertise; and be prepared for an invitation to offer financial support.

Are you a Thrivent member?

The Worship, Music, and Visual Arts Committee will be assembling another set of packets for Holy Week. Please contact Pr. Bourret if you're willing to apply for an "ActionTeam" grant for \$250 for supplies. She will be happy to walk you through the application process.



Looking Ahead



Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, **February 17, with a Zoom service at 7:30pm.**
On the following five Wednesdays we'll be introducing the
"Service of Word and Prayer" from *All Creation Sings* at 7:00 pm.
Let us walk together through this holy season.

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

February 14, 2021

Readings and Psalm

First Reading
2 Kings 2:1-12

Psalm
Psalm 50

Second Reading
2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Gospel
Mark 9:2-9

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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