

**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH** | Lodi, California

 *March 10, 2024*

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church. We pray that your soul will be strengthened by the good news about God’s grace, love, and forgiveness given to us. If you would like to learn more about our church, please speak with our pastor or one of our members after the service.

* **Bathrooms** are located in the fellowship hall. A changing table is located in the women’s bathroom.

**PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP**

Gracious God and Lord, thank you for preserving your life-saving and life-giving Word throughout the ages. Use that Word to strengthen my faith. As I come for worship, keep my mind free from distractions and help me to focus on your grace and truth. Amen.

**PRESERVICE MUSIC**

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” arr. Valerie Stephenson

 Baritone: Jeremiah Bauer

*You have arrived at church. You are seated in a building of historical refuge. You feel safe as you place your full trust in God, our mighty Fortress. The lyrics are included for your meditation.*

A mighty fortress is our God, a trusty shield and weapon;

He helps us free from ev'ry need that has us now o'ertaken.

The old evil foe now means deadly woe;

Deep guile and great might are his dread arms in fight;

On earth is not his equal.

“Just As I Am” arr. Sandra Eithun

 Flute: Kiera Schroeder

*Full of sin, you view the altar where the Lamb of God was slain. His blood washes you clean. You rejoice in your new robe of righteousness.*

Just as I am, without one plea, But that Thy blood was shed for me,

And that Thou bid'st me come to Thee, Oh, Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about With many a conflict, many a doubt,

Fighting and fears within without, Oh, Lamb of God, I come, I come

**OPENING HYMN** “What Grace Is This”

 *Laurie Gauger*

1. What grace is this! My Lord and King has set his face to suffering.

My God eternal dies to bring eternal life to me.

2. What grace is this—that very God would stoop to lift a cross of wood

And walk a road of rock ad blood, a sinner’s road, for me.

3. What grace is this! Though Lord of all, he yields to Pontius Pilate’s law

And lets the Roman hammers draw a rush of blood for me.

4. What grace is this! Rude agonies! With common thieves he hangs and bleeds.

The sinless Son bears each misdeed; he pays for all, for me.

5. What grace is this! Once wrapped in cloths and gently laid in manger-trough,

He’s taken, dead, from wretched cross and wrapped again for me.

6. What grace is this? How can it be? He wears this raw humility

To lift me to eternity. Such grace—sweet grace—for me.

*Please Stand*

**INVOCATION**

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

**CONFESSION OF SINS**

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

*Please be Seated*

**HYMN OF CONFESSION** “Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive”

 *Rosamond Herklots, Arr. Koine*

1. “Forgive our sins as we forgive,” you taught us Lord, to pray,

But you alone can grant us grace to live the words we say.

2. How can your pardon reach and bless the unforgiving heart

That broods on wrongs and will not let old bitterness depart?

3. In blazing light your cross reveals the truth we dimly knew:

What trivial debts are owed to us; how great our debt to you!

4. Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls and bid resentment cease;

Then, bound to all in bonds of love our lives will spread your peace, our lives will spread your peace.

**ABSOLUTION**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: **Amen.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE** “Rejoice” Keith and Kristyn Getty, Ben Shive, Sky Peterson, and Bryan Fowler

1. Rejoice in the Lord, now and always; sing it again, we rejoice.

Delight in the love He has shown us, gratefully lift up your voice.

His gentleness among us will join our hearts with praise.

We gather in His goodness; a family of grace.

*Refrain*

With each breath He’s given, praise the Lord!

In these times we live in, we will praise the Lord.

Through our ev’ry season, I am sure

We have ev’ry reason to praise the Lord.

2. Rejoice and be anxious for nothing, praying for all that you need.

Come with a heart of thanksgiving; lay your requests at his feet.

We fix our eyes upon him and follow all our lives,

That peace may fall upon us, the perfect peace of Christ!

*Refrain*

3. Rejoice in the Lord, now and always; tell of the good he has done.

Worship the Lord, to remember all of the joy yet to come.

The hope that burns within us the dark cannot destroy.

With praise that’s never ending, we say again, “Rejoice!”

*Refrain*

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

M: Let us pray.

 Almighty God, we confess that we deserve to be punished for our evil deeds. But we ask you graciously to cleanse us from all sin and to comfort us with your salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

 **FIRST LESSON Numbers 21:4-9**

4 They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; 5 they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!”

6 Then the Lord sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. 7 The people came to Moses and said, “We sinned when we spoke against the Lord and against you. Pray that the Lord will take the snakes away from us.” So Moses prayed for the people.

8 The Lord said to Moses, “Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live.” 9 So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.

**PSALM 38**

M: O Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger

**C: Or discipline me in your wrath.**

M: For you arrows have pierced me,

**C: And your hand has come down upon me.**

M: My guilt has overwhelmed me

**C: Like a burden to heavy to bear.**

M: All my longings lie open before you, O Lord;

**C: My sighing is not hidden from you.**

M: I wait for you, O Lord; you will answer, O Lord my God.

**C: Come quickly to help me, O Lord my Savior.**

 **Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinnned.**

**SECOND LESSON Ephesians 2:4-10**

1 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. 3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ephesians+2:1-3&version=NIV%23fen-NIV-29233a)] and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. 6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, 7 in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. 8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— 9 not by works, so that no one can boast. 10 For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

**VERSE OF THE DAY John 3:16**

**C: For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.**

*Please Stand*

**GOSPEL Mark 8:31-38**

14 Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, 15 that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son. 19 This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. 20 Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. 21 But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise be to you, O Christ.**

*Please Be Seated*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** “He Stood before the Court”

 *Christopher Idle, Arr. Koine*

1. He stood before the court on trial instead of us;

He met its pow’r to hurt, condemned to face the cross

Our King, accused of treachery; Our God, abused for plasphemy!

2. These are the crimes that tell the tale fo human guilt;

Our sins, our death, our hell on these the case is built.

To this world’s pow’rs the Lord stay s dumb. The guilt is ours; no answers come.

3. The sentence must be passed, the unknown pris’ner killed;

The price is paid at last, the law of God fulfilled.

He takes our blame, and from that day the accuser’s claim is wiped away.

4. Shall we be judged and tried? In Christ our trial is done;

We live for he has died, our condemnation gone.

In Christ are we both dead and raised, alive and free his name be praised!

**SERMON** *Numbers 21:4-9|*Pastor Andrew Schroeder

God Responds to His People

*Please Stand*

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

 **maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**

 **who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

 **born of the virgin Mary,**

 **suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

 **was crucified, died, and was buried.**

 **He descended into hell.**

 **The third day he rose again from the dead.**

 **He ascended into heaven**

 **and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

 **From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

 **the holy Christian Church,**

 **the communion of saints,**

 **the forgiveness of sins,**

 **the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

 *Please Be Seated*

**OFFERTORY** “It Is Well”|Arr. Joel Raney

 Piano: Allison Schroeder

*This favorite was penned by Horatio Spafford in 1876, following a disastrous voyage across the Atlantic Ocean on which all four of Spafford’s daughters died.*

When peace like a river attendeth my way,

When sorrows like sea billows roll,

Whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say

It is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,

Let this blest assurance control:

That Christ has regarded my helpless estate

And has shed His own blood for my soul.

It is well, it is well with my soul.

 *Please Stand*

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

M Heavenly Father, you loved the world and gave your Son to liberate us from sin and death by his obedient death on the cross.

C: **We confess that without your love we are lost.**

M: Lord of the Church, we thank you for the treasure of the gospel. By your Spirit, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

C: **Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger or the cost.**

M: Be with those who carry a cross in the name of Christ and face ridicule and persecution for the sake of the kingdom: missionaries and chaplains, young people who stand up for what is right in the face of pressure to do what is wrong, and all who pay a high price for their faith and their values as Christians.

C: **By your Spirit, O Lord, grant them patience and endurance.**

M: We pray for those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick and the chronically ill, the depressed and the lonely, those torn by conflict in personal relationships, those victimized by war and injustice, and all who face the terrors of life with a heavy heart.

C: **Grant them peace, O Lord, and in your mercy, be their guardian and friend, their comfort and hope.**

M: We pray for those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses; social workers and caring friends; all who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.

C: **Strengthen them in their work, O Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.**

M: We pray for the ministry and students of California Lutheran High School. Encourage the teachers to be faithful in their service. Give them the ability and strength to continue to proclaim your Word faithfully as they serve the students. Bless the faith of the students as they grow in your Word and the grace of Jesus Christ.

C: **Bless their work. Bless their efforts. Keep them all close to you.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

M: Hear us Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

M: Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

**BLESSING**

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

*Please Be Seated*

**CLOSING HYMN** “When You Woke that Thursday Morning.”

 Jaroslav Vajda

1. When you woke that Thursday morning Savior, teacher, faithful friend,

Thoughts of self and safety scorning Knowing how the day would end;

Lamb of God, foretold for ages Now at last the hour had come

When but One could pay sins wages: You assumed their dreadful sum.

2. Never so alone and lonely, Longing with tormented heart,

To be with your dear ones only For a quiet hour apart:

Sinless Lamb and fallen creature One last paschal meal to eat

One last lesson as their teacher Washing your disciples’ feet.

3. What was their that you could give them That would never be outspent?

What great gift that would outlive them, What last will and testament?

“Show me and the world you love me, Know me as the Lamb of God:

Do this in remembrance of me, Eat this body, drink this blood.”

4. One in faith, in love united, All one body, you the head

When we meet, by you invited You are with us, as you said.

One with you and one another In a unity sublime,

See in us your sister, brother, One in ev’ry place and time.

5. One day all the church will capture That bright vision glorious

And your saints will know the rapture That your heart desired for us,

When the longed-for peace and union Of the greatest and the least

Meet in joyous, blest communion In your never-ending feast.

**POSTLUDE** “Beach Spring Stomp”

Arr. Jeffrey Honoré

*It is time to depart worship and enter your individual mission fields. The following words, written by Albert Bayly and set to the Beach Spring melody, are found in the Christian Worship hymnal.*

Sent from worship as your servants, forth in your dear name we go,

To the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show;

Hope and health, goodwill and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we give,

That your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know and live.

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**WORSHIP BAND MEMBERS**

Freshmen Joel Doebler—King of Kings, Garden Grove

Christian Jones—Shepherd of the Hills, La Mesa

Cailin Schroeder—Living Hope, Wildomar

Isaac Vogel—Shepherd of the Hills, La Mesa

Juniors Anders Gabb—Hope, Los Angeles

Colton McGee—St. Paul’s , North Hollywood

Jonas Vogel—Shepherd of the Hills, La Mesa

Seniors Jeremiah Bauer—St. Paul’s North Hollywood

Allison Schroeder—Living Hope, Wildomar

Kiera Schroeder—Living Hope, Wildomar

**LAUDATION MEMBERS**

Freshmen Joel Doebler—King of Kings, Garden Grove

Cailin Schroeder—Living Hope, Wildomar

Isaac Vogel—Shepherd of the Hills, La Mesa

Sophomores Sophia Le—King of Kings, Garden Grove

Juniors Thomas Andreen—Shepherd of the Hills, La Mesa

Erin Brauer—Christ the Vine, Temecula

Mia Doebler—King of Kings, Garden Grove

Colton McGee—St. Paul’s , North Hollywood

Jonas Vogel—Shepherd of the Hills, La Mesa

Seniors Julia Ash—Living Hope, Wildomar

Jeremiah Bauer—St. Paul’s North Hollywood

Skarloey Lee

Allison Schroeder—Living Hope, Wildomar

Kiera Schroeder—Living Hope, Wildomar

Morgan Wolf—Beautiful Saviour, Carlsbad





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Pastor Timothy Leistekow

**WELCOME TO CHRIST EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH!**

We preach a message of forgiveness, hope and peace

through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Families and individuals of all ages will find opportunities

both to grow and to serve.

Our mission statement:

**Look what Christ is doing!**

He binds us together in fellowship

He gathers us in for worship

He builds us up for service

He sends us out with the gospel

*“Now you are the body of Christ,*

*and each one of you is a part of it.”*

*(1 Corinthians 12:27)*