

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
Welcomes You!



SECOND SUNDAY
in Lent

Sunday, March 5, 2023

@ 8AM

4333 Cleveland Ave, Stevensville, MI 49127

Sunday Services @ 8AM & 10:45AM

Sunday Bible Class 9:30AM

Sunday School 9:30AM

Thursday Evening Service at 7PM

Christian Day School: PreK – 8th Grade

SECOND SUNDAY

in Lent

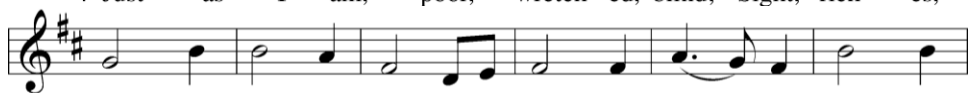
As We Gather

Lent is the season not of sins in the plural, but sin in the singular, the one sin, the sin of the world. Between every baptismal font and every altar stands the Baptist beckoning repentant sinners to "Behold! The Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world." If you cannot find yourself among the sinners, you might very well be a morally acceptable person, but you are no Christian. The baptized move from the Jordan up to Jerusalem to the Place of the Skull, crying for mercy. From that pierced body flows the water of baptismal sanctification and from that side flows the blood that fills more chalices than the world could ever create. (David P. Scaer, *In Christ*, p. 107)

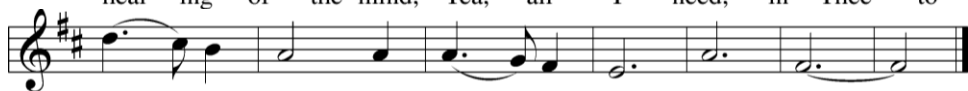
"Just as I Am, without One Plea" Hymn 570



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea But that Thy
2 Just as I am and wait - ing not To rid my
3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout With man - y a
4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; Sight, rich - es,



blood was shed for me And that Thou bidd'st me come to
soul of one dark blot, To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each
con - flict, man - y a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with - in, with -
heal - ing of the mind, Yea, all I need, in Thee to



Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come. | 6 Just as I am; Thy love unknown
Has broken ev'ry barrier down;
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come. |
|---|--|

Confession and Absolution

Stand

P In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Introit



- P** He remembers his covenant for- | ever,*
the word that he commanded, for a thousand gener- | ations.
- C** **Seek the Lord | and his strength;***
seek his presence con- | tinually!
- P** Remember the wondrous works that | he has done,*
his miracles, and the judgments he | uttered,
- C** **O offspring of Abraham, his | servant,***
children of Jacob, his | chosen ones!
- P** He is the | Lord our God;*
his judgments are in | all the earth.

Ps. 105:4-7; antiphon: Ps. 105:8

Gloria Patri



C Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Kyrie



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spirit.

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.
O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

Sit

Readings from the *Book of Concord*

An explanation of what we believe as Lutherans.

*The Apology of the Augsburg Confession
Article IX, Baptism, 52.*

For it is very certain that the promise of salvation also applies to little children. It does not, however, apply to those who are outside of Christ's Church, where there is neither Word nor Sacraments. Christ's kingdom exists only with the Word and Sacraments. Therefore, it is necessary to baptize little children, that the promise of salvation may be applied to them, according to Christ's command to baptize all nations (Matthew 28:19). Just as in this passage salvation is offered to all, so Baptism is offered to all, to men, women, children, infants. It clearly follows, therefore, that infants are to be baptized, because salvation is offered with baptism.

Readings from Holy Scripture

Old Testament Lesson

Genesis 12:1–9

¹Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, ⁶Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to

the LORD, who had appeared to him. ⁸From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD. ⁹And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

P O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus,

C the founder and perfecter of our faith,

P For the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame,

C and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:2

Epistle Lesson

Romans 4:1-8, 13-17

¹What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? ²For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” ⁴Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. ⁵And to the one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, ⁶just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

⁷“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,
and whose sins are covered;

⁸blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.”

¹³For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

¹⁶That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

P This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 3rd chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ²This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” ³Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” ⁴Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

⁹Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” ¹⁰Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

☩ I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

Sit

Children's MESSAGE

“Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart” Hymn 708



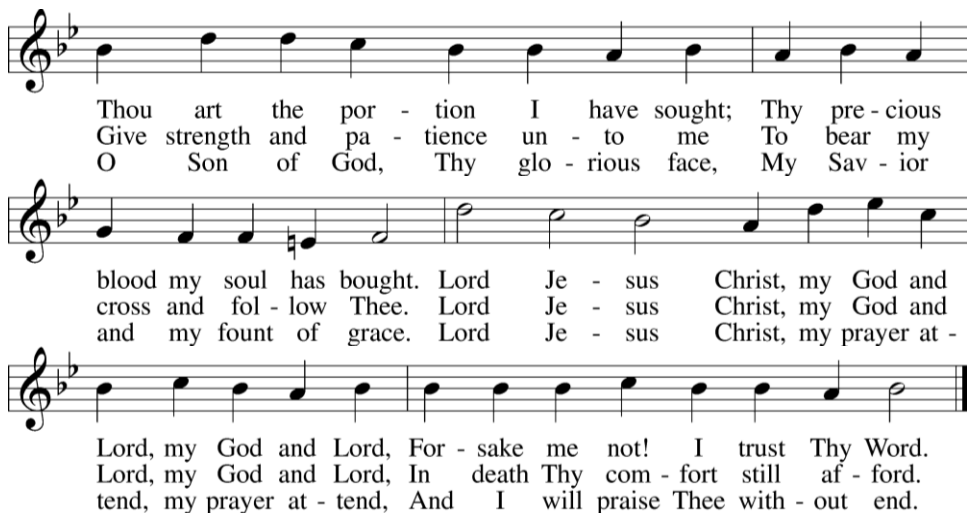
1 Lord, Thee I love with all my heart; I pray Thee, ne'er from
2 Yea, Lord, 'twas Thy rich boun-ty gave My bod - y, soul, and
3 Lord, let at last Thine an - gels come, To A - br'ham's bos - om

me de - part, With ten - der mer - cy cheer me. Earth
all I have In this poor life of la - bor. Lord,
bear me home, That I may die un - fear - ing; And

has no plea - sure I would share. Yea, heav'n it - self were
grant that I in ev - 'ry place May glo - ri - fy Thy
in its nar - row cham - ber keep My bod - y safe in

void and bare If Thou, Lord, wert not near me. And should my
lav - ish grace And help and serve my neigh - bor. Let no false
peace-ful sleep Un - til Thy re - ap - pear - ing. And then from

heart for sor - row break, My trust in Thee can noth - ing shake.
doc - trine me be - guile; Let Sa - tan not my soul de - file.
death a - wak - en me, That these mine eyes with joy may see,



Thou art the por - tion I have sought; Thy pre - cious
Give strength and pa - tience un - to me To bear my
O Son of God, Thy glo - rious face, My Sav - ior
blood my soul has bought. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
cross and fol - low Thee. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
and my fount of grace. Lord Je - sus Christ, my prayer at -
Lord, my God and Lord, For - sake me not! I trust Thy Word.
Lord, my God and Lord, In death Thy com - fort still af - ford.
tend, my prayer at - tend, And I will praise Thee with - out end.

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Sermon

“The Spirit Blows Where He Wishes”

John 3:1-17

Sit

Gathering of Our Tithes and Sacrificial Offerings

*There will be no passing of the offering plates.
Please place your offering in the plates in the narthex.*

Offertory

“Create in Me” Hymn 956

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

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Stand

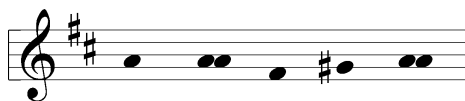
(You may remain seated if necessary.)

Prayer of the Church

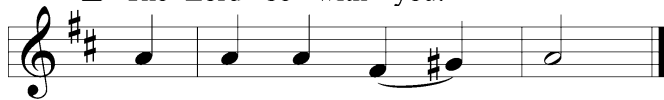
The Lord's Prayer

C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

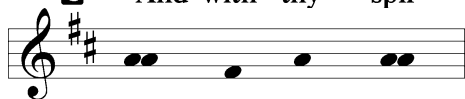
Salutation and Benedicamus



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

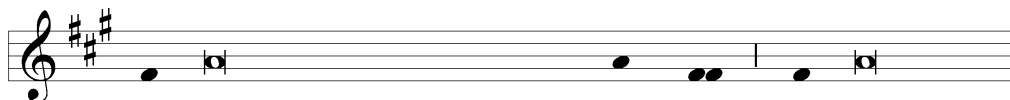


A Bless we the Lord.

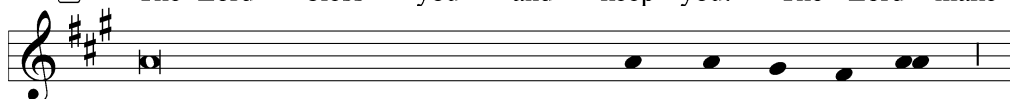


C Thanks be to God.

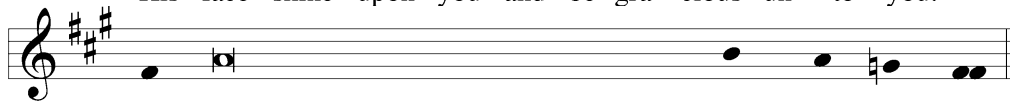
Benediction



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

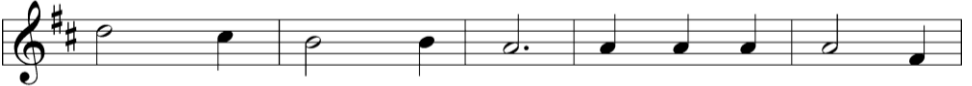


C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Closing Hymn
"God Loved the World So That He Gave".....Hymn 571



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made
3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all



Son the lost to save, That all who would in
flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in
sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the
sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.
Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

- 5 If you are sick, if death is near,
This truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;
That is the firmest ground of faith.
- 6 Glory to God the Father, Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To You, O blessèd Trinity,
Be praise now and eternally!

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+ Silent Prayer +

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SERVICE PARTICIPANTS:

THE PREACHER & THE LITURGIST..... Rev. Martin P. Measel

ORGANIST..... Mark Steffens

ELDER(S) ON DUTY Denny Kern

ALTAR GUILD..... Lori Brown, Terri Gerken

USHERS Mike Smith, Sr. – Captain, Bob Brunke

..... Chuck Schwanger, David Radtke, Tom Watson

Church News!

WELCOME! We invite you to celebrate God's love as we pray to our Heavenly Father who cares for us, and as we hear His powerful Word. If you do not have a local church home, we extend a warm invitation to you to become a part of our church family. If you have any questions, please feel free to speak with Pastor Measel today. Please take one of our visitor's bags located on the *welcome center* desk.

FLOWER CHART – If you want to sponsor altar flowers, be sure to add your name to the 2023 chart in the commons. Consider honoring a family member or special occasion by sponsoring Sunday altar flowers. The cost is **\$35.00**. After church services, the bouquet is delivered to a shut-in members or an individual on our prayer list. Thank you!

Radio Broadcast

Our service was recorded last Sunday and will air today.

This broadcast is dedicated to the glory of God,

In loving memory of Earl & Helen Quardokus.

Given by Rev. Phillip & Valerie Quardokus.

RADIO SPONSORSHIP – Christ Lutheran records two radio broadcasts per month. Consider sponsoring a broadcast for \$150.00 to share with a family member or friend. Be sure to sign-up in order to secure a specific date! Our *Local Lutheran Worship Service Broadcasts* are on **WSJM 106.1 FM** on **Sunday mornings** from **9AM – 10AM**. The services can also be heard by visiting www.wsjmsports.com and clicking on *listen live*.

THE PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS MAN IS POWERFUL AND EFFECTIVE.

We remember the following Missionary in our prayers this week:



Rev. Charles and Cheryl Ferry serve on behalf of LCMS throughout Asia and are based in Chiayi, Taiwan. As the Asia Regional Director, Charles is responsible for LCMS work, personnel and relationships in 20 countries. He unites local church leaders and LCMS resources to strengthen partner churches through theological education, translation and mercy

projects. In addition, Charles provides Word & Sacrament ministry and pastoral care to geographically separated Lutherans. Pray for Charles and Cheryl as they serve in Asia. Pray for their family as they adjust to living in Taiwan. Pray they are used daily to lovingly minister to the local people with whom they serve and live. Pray specifically that Charles is spiritually guided as he strives to teach, serve and lead. Let us give thanks that the Ferry family is serving in this part of the world.

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS WITH PASTOR QUARDOKUS - Bible class led by Pastor Quardokus held on **Thursday mornings at 10:00AM**.

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - The midweek Bible study this year will be the Gospel of John as it soars with rich theological insight, enigmatic sayings, and signs and controversies of Jesus as the messiah. Classes are held on **Tuesdays at 7:00PM** and **Wednesdays at 9:30AM**.

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE – We’ve hosted Sunday School every week since October 16 aside from Christmas and New Year’s. We average 5 students per week. The numbers are not the goal, but it’s encouraging to track the growth of the program. I need some help to continue the program. I want a list of substitutes who can lead the class when I am out of town or unavailable. **I need to cover March 19 and 26** (Spring Break) so we don’t have to cancel class those weeks. If you want to be added to a substitute call list or to help once a month or so – please call Steven Matheny (269-470-0514).

LENTEN THEME – Places of the Passion. The places where the passion of our Lord took place hold special meaning. They remind us that Jesus walked this Earth to carry out his mission of salvation. This was no sightseeing trip for our Savior. There was a serious reason he came to be at certain places and at particular times to suffer and die and rise again. He was fulfilling the will of his Father who desired that we be forgiven and given a place in heaven with him forever. Join us **Wednesdays at 1:00pm or 7:00pm.**

SHARING EASTER GREETINGS – Write notes or cards to our shut-in members. Pick up a bag with the list of names from the basket in the commons area. Return the bag to the same basket with your notes and cards by *Psalm Sunday* (**April 2**). No postage necessary. Your greetings will be *hand delivered*. Thank you for reaching out to our brothers and sisters in Christ.

GRIEF WORKSHOP - Join us for our Grief Share Workshop! **Mondays, March 13-June 5; 1:00-3:00** at Christ Lutheran Church. We will study God’s Word & learn tips to guide us as we journey through our grief. Contact: Becky Russell to register by phone (269-429-8770) or email (1bjrussell@gmail.com). **\$20 workbook is required.**

A BOARD OF EDUCATION CALL COMMITTEE – This committee has met and will be presenting a candidate for our open 3rd/4th grade teacher position for the upcoming school year. The CALL MEETING will be held during the *Voters’* meeting, **Sunday, March 19th at 9:30am.** Please keep this process in your prayers as we take each step together in faith.

SHARING EASTER GREETINGS – Write notes or cards to our shut-in members. Pick up a bag with the list of names from the basket in the commons area. Return the bag to the same basket with your notes and cards by *Psalm Sunday* (**April 2**). No postage necessary. Your greetings will be *hand delivered*. Thank you for reaching out to our brothers and sisters in Christ.

as we want to add these to the directory. Thank you in advance for your help with this!

ST. JOHN FRASER CHOIRSTERS – The choir is going on tour in Chicago and stopping by Christ Lutheran (courtesy of Mel Machemer) to treat us to a concert on **Thursday, March 16th at 12:45pm.** Congregants are invited to join!

CHILI COOK OFF – You’re invited to Christ Lutheran’s 1st Annual Chili Cook-off! **Saturday, March 11th from 4-6pm.** Sign-up to bring a pot of your favorite chili to participate in one of the following categories: *Spicy, Mild, Meatless,* and *White Chili.* Spoons provided! Call or text 269-449-3944 with questions. See you there!



CHURCH CLERK'S REPORT

Weekly Services

Attendance

Ash Wed, 02/22/23 <i>Online Attendees: 38</i>	1pm	122
	7pm	49
Total		171
Sunday 02/26/23 <i>Online Attendees: 21</i>	8AM	100
	10:45AM	86
Total		186
<i>Week of 02/26 total budgeted receipts</i>		\$12,236.02
<i>Average Weekly Budgeted Disbursements</i>		\$18,795.00
<i>YTD Contributions</i>		\$650,113.23
<i>YTD Budget</i>		\$657,825.00
<i>Tuesday Bible Class</i>	02/21/23	10
<i>Wednesday Bible Class</i>	02/22/23	17
<i>Thursday Bible Class</i>	02/23/23	17
<i>Sunday Bible Class</i>	02/26/23	26



Sunday, March 5	8:00AM	Worship Service
	9:30am	BIBLE CLASS
	9:30AM (media center)	
	10:45AM	Contemporary Worship Service
Monday, March 6		
Tuesday, March 7	7pm	BIBLE CLASS
Wednesday, March 8	9:30am	BIBLE CLASS
	1pm	Lenten Service
	7pm	Lenten Service
Thursday, March 9	10am	BIBLE CLASS
	6:30pm	CHOIR
Friday, March 10		
Saturday, March 11		
Sunday, March 12	8:00AM	Communion Worship Service
	9:30am	BIBLE CLASS
	9:30AM (media center)	
	10:45AM	Communion Worship Service



Rev. Martin P. Measel, Pastor

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Kristie Koehn, Church Secretary

CLCOffice@christstevensville.com

Neil Webb, Principal

nwebb@christstevensville.com

School Office (269) 429-7111

Amy Cole, School Secretary

acole@christstevensville.com

Mark Steffens, Director of Music

Home Phone (269) 429-5487

Prayer Team, Terri Gerken

picklegirl6@gmail.com

Stephen Ministry, Pat Jaeger

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