Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church Welcomes You!

SERVANT

Contemporary Worship

Sunday, November 19, 2023

(a) 8AM

4333 Cleveland Ave, Stevensville, MI 49127 Sunday Services @ 8AM & 10:45AM Sunday Bible Class 9:30AM Thursday Evening Service at 7PM Christian Day School: PreK – 8th Grade

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

As We Gather

As the Church Year draws to a close and the harvest is nearing its end, we cannot help but look back at the wonderful blessings that God has granted to us, His people. However, we must also look ahead to the day when this sinful world draws to a close. Awaiting Christ's return, let us be faithful and so hear the words of the Master, "Well done, good and faithful servant." Wherever we may fail in our faithfulness, let there be true repentance and forgiveness for Christ's sake.

—Pastor Quardokus

King of Kings

In the darkness we were waiting
Without hope without light
Till from Heaven You came running
There was mercy in Your eyes
To fulfil the law and prophets
To a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory
To a cradle in the dirt.

Praise the Father
Praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of Glory Majesty
Praise forever to the King of kings.

To reveal the kingdom coming And to reconcile the lost To redeem the whole creation You did not despise the cross For even in Your suffering You saw to the other side Knowing this was our salvation Jesus for our sake You died.

And the morning that You rose
All of heaven held its breath
Till that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered death
And the dead rose from their tombs
And the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are restored.

And the Church of Christ was born
Then the Spirit lit the flame

Now this Gospel truth of old Shall not kneel shall not faint By His blood and in His Name In His freedom I am free For the love of Jesus Christ Who has resurrected me.

Praise the Father
Praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of Glory Majesty
Praise forever to the King of kings.

REPEAT

Praise forever to the King of Kings.

Confession and Absolution

Stand

Invocation

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

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **G** Amen. Matthew 28.19b; [18:20]
- If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:8-9

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

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- G Amen. [John 20:19-23]

Service of the Word

Most Merciful God

Most merciful God, our Father of grace,
We confess we have sinned,
We have walked our own way.
Our love has been fickle, our hearts they have strayed.
So, Lord, in your mercy, forgive us we pray.

Most merciful God, our Father of grace,
We confess we have sinned
We have walked our own way.
Our love has been fickle, our hearts they have strayed.
So, Lord, in your mercy, forgive us we pray

Restore us, change us. Lord lead us on. Restore us, change us. Lord lead us on.

That we may do justly, forever love mercy.
Together walk humbly with you.
That we may do justly, forever love mercy.
Together walk humbly with you.

Restore us, change us. Lord lead us on. Restore us, change us. Lord lead us on.

Kyrie

- **P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- **P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord.
- C Amen.

Salutation

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Reading from the Book of Concord

An explanation of what we believe as Lutheran

Augsburg Confession Article XVII, Christ's Return for Judgment

Our churches teach that at the end of the world Christ will appear for judgment and will raise all the dead [1 Thessalonians 4:13–5:2]. He will give the godly and elect eternal life and everlasting joys, but He will condemn ungodly people and the devils to be tormented without end [Matthew 25:31–46].

Our churches condemn [those], who think that there will be an end to the punishments of condemned men and devils.

Our churches also condemn those who are spreading certain Jewish opinions, that before the resurrection of the dead the godly shall take possession of the kingdom of the world, the ungodly being everywhere suppressed.

Readings from Holy Scripture

Old Testament Lesson

Zephaniah 1:7-16

⁷Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is near; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests.

⁸And on the day of the LORD's sacrifice—
"I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all who array themselves in foreign attire.

⁹On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their master's house with violence and fraud.

10"On that day," declares the LORD,
"a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate,
a wail from the Second Quarter,
a loud crash from the hills.
11Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar!
For all the traders are no more:

(Continued)

all who weigh out silver are cut off. ¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, 'The LORD will not do good, nor will he do ill.' ¹³Their goods shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them." ¹⁴The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there. ¹⁵A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, ¹⁶ a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Gradual

- **P** These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.
- **C** They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.
- P Blessèd are those whose strength is in you,
- in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

Rev. 7:14b: Ps. 84:5

Epistle Lesson

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of

faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia, Lord

Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life! Alleluia!

Holy Gospel Matthew 25:14-30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁴[Jesus said:] "It will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. ¹⁵To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. ¹⁷So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. ¹⁸But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' ²¹His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' ²²And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' ²³His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' ²⁶But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed and gather where I scattered no seed? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. ²⁹For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. ³⁰And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.



In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease

My Comforter my All in All Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

Sermon "Which God Will Come?" Matthew 22:1-14

Apostles' Creed

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 \(\frac{1}{12} \) everlasting. Amen.

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.

Christ Our Hope In Life And Death

What is our hope in life and death
Christ alone Christ alone
What is our only confidence
That our souls to Him belong
Who holds our days within His hand
What comes apart from His command
And what will keep us to the end
The love of Christ in which we stand

O sing hallelujah
Our hope springs eternal
O sing hallelujah
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death

What truth can calm the troubled soul
God is good God is good
Where is His grace and goodness known
In our great Redeemer's blood
Who holds our faith when fears arise
Who stands above the stormy trial
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh
Unto the shore the rock of Christ

CHORUS

(Continued)

Unto the grave what will we sing
Christ He lives Christ He lives
And what reward will heaven bring
Everlasting life with Him
There we will rise to meet the Lord
Then sin and death will be destroyed
And we will feast in endless joy
When Christ is ours forevermore,

O sing hallelujah
Our hope springs eternal
O sing hallelujah
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death
REPEAT

(You may be seated if necessary.)

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

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.

Benediction

- The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and

 → give you peace.
- **C** Amen

Every Nation

Ev'ry nation will sing your praise,
All creation will call your name;
Hosts of heaven join the song.
You are seated on the throne
Where lightning cracks and thunder rolls;
Mighty God we lift our praise.

Hallelujah, Forever you will be Lifted high above all other things. Glorious Savior, Lord of Lords, King of Kings, Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

Ev'ry tear will be wiped away, No more mourning, death or pain, The former things will pass away. You are making all things new, You are trustworthy and true; Mighty God, we lift our praise.

CHORUS

And when all is said and done,
When Your kingdom's reign has come,
And ev'ry knee is bowed to you,
In your city, God you'll shine
With grace and mercy, love divine;
Mighty God, we lift our praise.

CHORUS

+ Silent Prayer +

Acknowledgments

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Matthew 25:30 – "And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness." Why did the worthless servant act the way he did? Because of what he believed about the Master. He didn't trust or love the Master; so, his actions did not demonstrate love and trust, but rather hate and mistrust. It's the same with us, but in reverse: since we know our Lord God to be faithful and kind, we desire to serve Him and render faithful service with what He has given us.

"Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations"
(PS 90:1 ESV). May children, youth and adults feel at home in this, Christ's church. Welcome. If you are visiting, please sign our guest

book and treat yourselves to one of our *visitor* 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!

Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar today are dedicated to the glory of God, With thankful hearts, this broadcast is dedicated to **the glory of God.**Given by Pastor Ron & Lorelle Moritz.

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 signup 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*.

Radin Broadcast

Our service was recorded last Sunday and will air today.
With thankful hearts, this broadcast is dedicated to **the glory of God**. *Given by Pastor Ron & Lorelle Moritz*

THE PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS MAN IS POWERFUL AND EFFECTIVE.

We remember the following Missionary in our prayers this week:



Rev. Dr. Ronald (Creston, IA) and Mary Anne Rall (Erlanger, KY) serve the LCMS as missionaries in Papua New Guinea. In this role, Ronald teaches courses in Lutheran theology at Timothy Lutheran Seminary in Birip. He also conducts continuing education workshops for pastors and evangelists in remote areas and distributes reading glasses. Ronald's hobbies include coaching basketball, reading and bee keeping. She enjoys

music and reading. Ronald and Mary Anne have six children. Pray for Ronald and Mary Anne as they serve the Lord in Papua New Guinea by asking God to bless them both with good health during their time in this country. Pray for the Gutnius Lutheran Church in Papua New Guinea as it faces many challenges to share the Gospel with many language groups and to provide helpful printed materials for pastors, evangelists and teachers.

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS WITH PASTOR QUARDOKUS - Bible class led by Pastor Quardokus held on **Thursday mornings** at **10:00AM.** Class is doing a study of the prophet Micah.

GOSPEL OF JOHN BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES – The midweek bible class will continue studying the unique Gospel of John. Join us: **Tuesday evenings at 7pm or Wed mornings at 9:30am.**

THANKSGIVING FOOD BASKETS - We will be collecting non-perishable food for Thanksgiving baskets this year. Watch for boxes in the commons area. If you prefer to make a monetary donation, please see Pastor Measel or Kristie in the church office. Thank you!

CHURCH DIRECTORY APP – We are pleased to announce that the *Universal Church Directory* app is up and running! If you are interested in downloading this to your phone, please reach out to Kristie in the church office. Thank you!

JAM SALES - Do you need gift ideas? Don't forget to check out Fellowship's wonderful selection of jams available for purchase in the commons.

RAISERIGHT GIFT CARDS – What do you give to those who don't know what he or she wants this holiday season?! Gift cards of course! Raiseright (formerly Scrip) gift cards are available for purchase in the church office.

SEMINARIAN MATTHEW MACHEMER (grandson of Ellen) - Ladies League will be sending a Christmas gift to Matthew and his family. If you would like to contribute to this gift, please place your donation in the designated basket near the church entrance. The basket will be available on **November 26** and **December 3.** Thank you!

PTL CRAFT BAZAAR CRAFTERS – Don't forget that your fabulous creations need to be dropped off **no later than November 27**th. Thank you again for taking the time to create wonderful gifts for our students to give this Christmas season.

FALL CLEAN-UP – This year our fall clean-up will be **Saturday, December 2**nd. More details to follow in upcoming bulletins. Any and all help is greatly appreciated!

LADIES LEAGUE ADVENT E.T.C. (<u>EAT THEN CHURCH</u>) – Serving time will be from 11:15 to 12:30pm. We will be serving soup (**12/6** | *Potato Corn Chowder*, **12/13** | *Taco Soup*), bread, dessert and drinks. All proceeds from the free will donation will go to Christ Lutheran's *Soup Kitchen Outreach*.

50 PLUS LUNCHEON — Christmas gifting for loved ones can be daunting. Join us as we explore the gifts Jesus gives us! The *50 Plus Christmas Luncheon* is on the calendar, but is it on *your* calendar?! **Friday, December 8** at **12 Noon** (until approximately 2:00) in the *All Purpose Room* is where you'll want to be! Please RSVP on the list located on the table under the Soup Kitchen Signup sheet or call Debbie at 269-369-4976 and leave a message. Please indicate the dish you are bringing when you sign-up. The meat will be provided. The suggested cost for the meal is \$7.00. We will also be taking a collection to replenish the "Pastor's Purse". Last year we collected over \$600! Thank you for your generosity! We need volunteers to help with setting the tables and decorating the morning of the party. After this gala event we need volunteers to assist with clean up. Let us know if you can help. *Your host and hostess, Dean and Debbie*

RUN WITH THE REV – Dr. Gregory Seltz of the LCRL is sponsoring a 5k + 1k run on **December 10.** This is a fund raiser for the LCRL. You can go to Washington and 'Run with the Rev', or, you can stay here and run with me and raise some funds for the LCRL. I will map out a (flat) course that ends at the church (or close). This is almost twice my usual run, so I need to step it up! How can you help? Help me raise \$1,000 for the LCRL! Email your pledge to fpieplow@gmail.com or drop a check off at church. We will send all the funds in after the race. Sign up to run yourself and get your own pledges! Check out www.lcrlfreedom.org/events/runwiththerev.

LUTHERANISM 101 – For those who are interested in what Lutherans teach, this would be the class for joining our church. Come to our new Lutheranism 101 class: **Wednesday evenings, 7:00-8:30**, starting **January 3rd**, for 8 weeks. All are welcome!

BUILDING USAGE REMINDER – We are so happy to be able to provide a place to host gatherings and/or use the premises outside of normal "business hours." That being said, please be mindful to pick-up after yourselves as it's not always possible for the building to be cleaned after your visit. Thank you!





Weekly Services	Attendance					
Thursday 11/09/23	7	7PM	16			
Sunday 11/12/23	/23 8			98		
Online Attendees: 23	10:45AM		85			
Total 199						
Tuesday Bible C	Tuesday Bible Class		7/23	11		
Wednesday Bible (Wednesday Bible Class		11/08/23			
Thursday Bible C	Thursday Bible Class		9/23	16		
Sunday Bible C	Sunday Bible Class		2/23	17		

*Week of 11/10 total budgeted receipts	\$13,425.00
YTD Contributions	\$316,763.45
YTD Budget	\$330,769.23
YTD Over (Under)	\$-14,005.78

^{*}This area represents budgeted receipts for plate and envelope giving, plus undesignated memorials. This totals \$860,000 for the year ending June 30, 2024.



Áe .	Sunday, Nov 19	8:00AM	Contemporary Worship Service	
Saturday		9:30AM	VOTERS' MEETING	
		9:30am	SUNDAY SCHOOL	
Friday		10:45AM	Worship Service	
	Monday, Nov 20		CANCELLED	
kebs.	Tuesday, Nov 21	7PM	Bible Class CARRELLED	
We	Wednesday, Nov 22	9:30am	BIBLE CLASS CANCELLE	
sday		7PM	Thanksgiving Eve Service	
Wedne	Thursday, Nov 23	(
Siday Siday		Thanksgiving		
	Friday, Nov 24		Office Closed	
D C	Saturday, Nov 25			
Mond	Sunday, Nov 26	8:00AM <i>9:30am</i>	Communion Worship Service BIBLE CLASS	
Sunday		9:30am	SUNDAY SCHOOL	
35		10:45AM	Communion Worship Service	



Rev. Martin P. Measel, Pastor Home Phone: (269) 932-4499 mmeasel@christstevensville.com

Church Office (269) 429-7222 Kristie Koehn, Church Secretary CLCOffice@christstevensville.com

Neil Webb, Principal nwebb@christstevensville.com

School Office (269) 429-7111

Amy Cole, School Secretary
crusaders@christstevensville.com

Mark Steffens, Director of Music Home Phone (269) 429-5487

Prayer Team, Terri Gerken picklegirl6@gmail.com

Stephen Ministry, Pat Jaeger Home Phone (269) 429-5300 Patlj9743@gmail.com

www.christ-luth.org

Text Phone 269-588-4800