

Life on the Edge of Faith

Soup and Sandwich Lenten Series

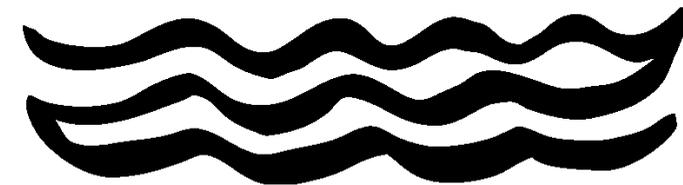
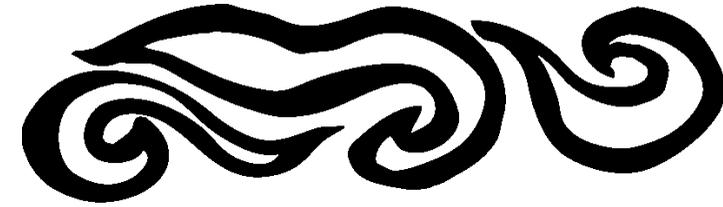
**Wednesday evenings
@ 6:00pm**

Five characters bear witness to the world-changing event which forces them right to the "edge of faith" Each perspective comes from someone present at our Lord's Passion. Through the confusion of these characters we may find a voice for the confusion that we all experience from time to time.

March 11 –High Priest

Christ Lutheran Church

*March 8, 2020
Second Sunday in Lent*



*The Hands of Christ
Worshiping Learning Serving
Together*



**MARCH
MADness**
Bracket Party
Monday, March 16, 2020
@ 5:30pm

\$10.00 per Bracket,
more details to come



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INTRODUCTION – In today’s gospel Jesus tells Nicodemus that he must be born of water and Spirit. At the font we are given a new birth as children of God. As God made a covenant with Abraham, in baptism God promises to raise us up with Christ to new life. From worship we are sent forth to proclaim God’s love for all the world.

Welcome Visitors! Please sign our guest book in the Gathering Area.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday. Everyone who seeks the Lord for forgiveness, mercy, and new life for daily living is welcome to the table. Ushers will direct you. If you prefer grape juice to wine, cups will be provided at the altar. Please dispose of your cups in the baskets at the end of the altar rail. Children are also invited to participate.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 121

¹I lift up my eyes to the hills;

from where is my help to come?

²**My help comes from the LORD,
the maker of heaven and earth.**

³The LORD will not let your foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.

⁴**Behold, the keeper of Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep;**

⁵the LORD watches over you;

the LORD is your shade at your right hand;

⁶**the sun will not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**

⁷The LORD will preserve you from all evil
and will | keep your life.

⁸**The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth forevermore.**

GATHERING HYMN: “Lift High the Cross,” #660 Red Hymnal

CONFESSIONS AND FORGIVENESS

	March 8, 2020	March 15, 2020	March 22, 2020
Reader	Betty Massey	Jean Warren	
Ushers	Duane Rayburn Ronnie Tweedle	Bob Drake Donna Tetlow	
Greeter	Dorothy Rayburn	Barbara Shipp	Diane Tweedle
Ppt Tech	Patty Northam	Carrie Baker	Susan Geisler
Musician	Sandy Nail	Linda Pirtle	Mary Morgan
\$ Counters			
Altar Guild	Betty's Guild		
	If you would like to be a part of the <u>Altar Guild</u> contact the Church Office: clcoffice2019@gmail.com or 979-297-2013.		

Calendar:

Sunday, March 8th, Worship, 9:00AM

Discussion Group, 10:15AM

Monday, March 9th, Servant Ministry, 9:00AM

Tuesday, March 10th, Boredom Busters, 12:30PM

Wednesday, March 11th, Bread for Life, 11:30AM

Lenten Mid-week Gathering, 6:00PM

Thursday, March 12th, Choir Practice, 6:30PM

Sunday, March 15th, Worship, 9:00AM

Discussion Group, 10:15AM

Attendance Last Weekend: 43

Lord's Work	Income	Expenses	+/-
January	\$15,316.00	\$15,848.13	-\$532.13
YTD 2020	\$15,316.00	\$15,848.13	-\$532.13
Bldg Loan	Income	Expenses	+/-
January	\$6,852.00	\$4,949.53	\$1,902.47
YTD 2020	\$6,852.00	\$4,949.53	\$1,902.47

Refrain

Oh, how I love Je - sus! Oh, how I love Je - sus!

Oh, how I love Je - sus, be - cause he first loved me!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

Preaching/Presiding: *Paul Geisler Jr*

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Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who is present, who gives life, who calls into existence the things that do not exist. **Amen.**

If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand? Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned away from you, knowingly and unknowingly. We have wandered from your resurrection life. We have strayed from your love for all people. Turn us back to you, O God. Give us new hearts and right spirits, that we may find what is pleasing to you and dwell in your house forever. Amen.

Receive good news: God turns to you in love. “I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live,” says our God. All your sin is forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ, who is the free and abounding gift of God’s grace for you. **Amen.**

GREETING

As God has poured out the peace of new birth through Christ, let us also share that grace with among ourselves. Peace be with you.

And also with you.

Share the peace with those around you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WE LISTEN TO THE WORD

READING: *Genesis 12:1-4a*

God’s call of Abram and Sarai has a clear purpose—that through them all the families of the earth would gain a blessing. As they set out on their journey, they are accompanied by promises of land, nation, and a great reputation.

¹The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ²I 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 the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

^{4a}So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The Son of Man must be lifted up,
that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. (*John 3:14-15*)

GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

The Gospel for today, from the 3rd chapter of John
Thanks be to God.

A curious Pharisee visits Jesus by night to learn from the teacher his friends reject. Jesus speaks to him about life in the Spirit and the kingdom of God.

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” ³Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” ⁴Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” ⁵Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, 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 a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?”

¹¹“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Now is the acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation. Holy God, speaking, spoken, and inspiring, † bless you, unbind you, and send you in love and in peace. **Amen.**

WE ARE SENT

BLESSING

Now is the acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation. Holy God, speaking, spoken, and inspiring, † bless you, unbind you, and send you in love and in peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN: “By Grace We Have Been Saved,” verses 1,3,5

1 By grace we have been saved through faith and
 2 For all have sinned and fall - en short. God's
 3 God gave to earth a per - fect love through
 4 We know the wage of sin is death; thank
 5 Set free, we now have peace with God. Sal -

not by keep - ing law. God's saints be - lieved by
 plan, not one o - beyed. Christ has for all ful -
 Je - sus on the cross. While we were foes, Christ
 God, we shall re - vive. For just as Je - sus
 va - tion is se - cured. How beau - ti - ful the

what they heard and not by what they saw.
 filled the law. Be - lieve, con - fess, be saved.
 died for us. We gained by God's own loss.
 rose a - gain, we too are made a - live.
 feet of those who share this gos - pel word.

When the time was right, you shared yourself with us in a new way - in the life and teachings, in the death and resurrection, of Jesus – the One we call Christ. So we remember the night before he was to be put to death. He gathered with his friends and shared a meal of celebration. In love, he tried to help his disciples understand what was to come. He took a loaf of bread, blessed it, and broke the bread saying, “Take this, all of you, and eat it. This is my body, given for you.”

Amen!

He took a cup of wine and blessed it and offered them the cup, saying, “Take this, all of you, and drink from it. In this is my covenant – my promise - offered to you, that sin might be forgiven.”

Amen!

Holy God, fill us and these gifts with your Presence - that they and we might be the Body of Christ - feeding your world. Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God most holy, forever and ever.

Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

And so, as Jesus’ taught us, we are bold to say...

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

God’s love is poured out in Christ for you. Open yourselves to receive it.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION: *“Come to the Table,” #481 Red Hymnal*

things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just 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, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY: *“In the Cross of Christ I Glory,” #324 Red Hymnal*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*universal

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Turning our hearts to God who is gracious and merciful, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *A brief silence.*

God of rebirth, empower your church throughout the world to be a voice of hope for those who fear judgment or condemnation. Assure us of your faithfulness and give us confidence to proclaim your salvation for all. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

WE SHARE THE HOLY MEAL

God of rebirth, your Spirit hovered over the waters and you called creation into being. Nurture and bless all signs of rebirth around us: budding trees and new shoots, thawing lakes and warm breezes, and animals awaking from hibernation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of rebirth, lead the nations in your way of righteousness. Protect those who advocate for the needs of children, migrants, and victims of violence. Give courage to lawmakers, lawyers, judges, and law enforcement officers, guiding them to do justice and to love mercy. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of rebirth, give us a new vision of your healing power among us. Restore hope to those who remain in the depths of depression or despair. Bring mercy and relief to those who are injured, sick, or suffering *especially* Alison Blevins, Liz Ellett, Agnes Harris, Dennis Jones, David Lykken, Roselyn Lykken, Jimmy Neece, Richard Poklikuha, Steve Ray, Dennis Smith, Gail Smith, Joy Stanley, and Donna Tetlow. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of rebirth, be with those in need of daily care. Give strength to them and walk alongside all caregivers with your never-failing presence, especially Dorothy Krug, Terry Partridge, and Connie Spangenburg. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of rebirth, we thank you for the children of this community and for the people and ministries that care for them. Bless new and expectant parents. Console those who have lost children and those whose desire for children remains unfulfilled. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of rebirth, by wind and spirit you call us into life renewed. We give you thanks for all your saints who have inherited your promises. Bring us, with them, into your everlasting kingdom. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

According to your steadfast love, O God, hear these and all our prayers as we commend them to you; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OFFERING & VIDEO MEDITATION

OFFERING PRAYER

Holy and generous host,

you set a table where we feast as friends. Prepare us to witness to your goodness with every gift you have given us to share, that all people may know your peace through Jesus Christ, now and forever Amen.

DIALOG

God is with you!

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give God our thanks and our praise.

With joy and celebration, we say, "Thank you, Father!"

PREFACE

We do thank you, Creator-of-All, for all things in our lives: for all people in our lives. For life itself! We give you thanks for the many ways we are transformed, by the touch of another of your children - both the ones we meet and the ones we will never know.

Thank you, Loving God!

We give you thanks for all who have come before us, Grandmothers and Grandfathers - by blood and by faith, who have loved us and taught us, by their stories and by their lives. They have shared your love in their love. We celebrate that they are a part of your great community of saints - of which we, too, are a part.

Thank you, Loving God!

All creation thanks you, Loving God, and we join them, saying,

Holy, holy, holy God! God of love and life

heaven and earth are full of your glory,

hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One who comes in God's name!

Hosanna in the highest!