

Christ Lutheran Newsletter

Official Newsletter of Christ Lutheran Church, Augusta, MO 63332

<http://www.clcaugustamo.org>

May 2020

Bible Study/Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.
Worship Service: 10:00 a.m.

Church Phone: (636)228-4642
Pastor's Phone: (636)485-2048

From the Pastor...

Things are opening back up. This includes churches. We will be able to gather in the house of the Lord on Sunday, May 10. The last time we had this privilege was March 22. We had twenty-two in church that day. Most of our members were exercising caution, and for good reason. So much was unknown about the coronavirus. We know much more now. We know that we can congregate again, yet not throwing caution to the wind. We will practice social distancing while in the pews and at the Communion Table. We will dispense with hand shaking and we will not use the common cup at this time. We also realize that some of our members are in a higher risk category. So, we will record our Sunday services and make these videos available to our members, as we have been doing, who need to continue sheltering in place.

"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'"

The words of David in Psalm 122 surely come to mind at this time, "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'" He rejoiced at the invitation to gather with God's people in God's house. The world does not understand this. Those who are of the world love most of all the things of the world. A nursing home resident said to a news reporter last week that he was looking forward most of all to going back to the casino. We, too, make use of the world. We may be looking forward to seeing a movie or dining in a restaurant. But the world is not our first love. We love Jesus most of all. So, we love to hear His words to us and receive His meal for us.

It is unnatural for us to agree with David. It is, therefore, a miracle of God – His gracious work within us – to rejoice at the invitation to gather in His house. And it truly is an invitation, God's invitation. He invites sinful people, like us, to come and receive His gifts. Within His house, His words breathe out to us forgiveness, life, and salvation. Within His house, He gives us the peace that surpasses all understanding. Within His house, His promises are given to us for the strengthening of our faith. There is no place on earth like God's house. May we always say with David, "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'"

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O come, let us sing to the Lord, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our Salvation. Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving,
Let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise. **"Venite" vs. 1**

Pastor's Office Hours:

Monday & Wednesday
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Prayer Service

(to be determined)
Wednesday morning
11:00 - 11:30 a.m.



Inside this Issue:

- † Worship Services
- † Thank you's
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"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." Psalm 119:105



Attendance

Worship Services were suspended through the month of April.

"I was glad when they said to me, let us go to the house of the Lord!" Psalm 122:1

Morning and Evening Prayers

A good Christian practice is to begin and end each day making the sign of the cross, in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and saying the following prayers:

Morning Prayer—*"I thank You, my Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen."*

Evening Prayer—*I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands, I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.*

Worship Services Update

After several weeks of having worship services suspended due to COVID-19, we are excited that beginning on Sunday, May 10, we will be able to worship again in God's House.

We will continue to provide a weekly video service for those who are not yet able to join us in church. This video worship service will be available on the church's website and on Facebook.

Pastor Bell will continue to share a weekly devotion on Facebook and the church website. If you would like a printed copy of the sermon mailed to your home or if you have any other needs, please contact Pastor Bell at 636-228-4642 (church) or by cell phone at 636-485-2048.

Notes and Thank you's

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for the prayers, cards, and phone calls when my sister died on April 11. It really has helped a lot. My mother died 52 years ago on Good Friday, April 12. Thanks be to God, He is with us through sad and happy times. Now this virus needs to go away so we can all worship together at church. Linda and Bill Warnecke

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Dear Beloved Members of the Family of God and Sharers of the Gospel of Christ,

These past few weeks have taught us as a nation (and as a world) that all that we hold and treasure in this life can change overnight. Our health can change, our finances can change, and our security can change. But there is one constant in this world that will never change—God's love and promises to us. He is always with us and for us. His salvation is secured through Christ. May this coronavirus episode help us to realize that all that we truly need is Christ Himself. May this bring us and our families closer together and to God and His Church. Please accept the enclosed contribution as our way of saying "Thank You" for your work for the Lord. Keep up the good work of sharing Christ to our world!

Sincerely in Christ's Service, Pastor Martin and Linda Koeller

Offerings

God has continued to bless Christ Lutheran Church through you, our members, who continue to give to the Lord from what He has given to you.

Weekly offerings can be mailed to the church at 123 Church Rd. They will be recorded to your account and deposited.