

The Third Sunday after Epiphany

WELCOME TREASURED MEMBERS AND HONORED

GUESTS! Due to poor weather, we missed hearing about Jesus' baptism. But the event is too important to skip entirely. This morning we return to the lessons from two weeks ago that address the fears and worries that often engulf our lives. They tie us in knots and refuse to let us go. Jesus has the power to release us from their captivity. "Fear not," He says to His redeemed people! "You are Mine."

NOTE TO OUR GUESTS: Since Holy Communion is a public demonstration of unity in faith, those who commune should express their acceptance of the faith and teaching for which we stand. Our welcome to visitors is heartfelt. Visitors from another Lutheran church or Congregation are asked to please approach our Pastor, if you have not already done so, before attending communion this morning. Also, if you're not a member of an LCMS church but would like a blessing, cross your arms across your chest to receive the blessing. Individual cups are available, in addition to the common cup, as you approach the Altar. Non-alcoholic white wine is available in the center of the tray.

VISION STATEMENT: Christ Lutheran Church will continue its Christ-centered, life directed focus, responding to the needs of its members, emphasizing local and worldwide witness, and acting as a catalyst for the improvement of the neighborhood.

Hymns: Praise Band insert
Liturgy: Special Service Folder
The First Lesson: Isaiah 43:1-7page 603
The Second Lesson: Romans 6:1-11.....page 942
The Holy Gospel: Luke 3:15-22.....page 858
Adult Choir: Praise the One who Breaks the Darkness
Sermon: Rev. Karl Eckhoff
"Fear Nots for the Fear Knots" Isaiah 43:1-7

CHECK OUT THE CHRIST LUTHERAN FACEBOOK PAGE AND "LIKE" US TO STAY INVOLVED AND INFORMED.

ELDERS PRAYING WITH PASTOR: - Gary Heinz

ASSISTING WITH HOLY COMMUNION: Tommie Washington, Reg Lee, Mike Lelm

GREETING YOU THIS MORNING are Martha Guppy and Jan Reinhart.

ACOLYTES: Hunter and Cameron Peeler

NEXT SUNDAY: Avery and Oliver Rosenbohm

USHERS FOR JANUARY: Team #2 (Samuel-Hannah and Team #4 (Simeon-Anna).

LAST WEEK: Tithes and Offerings: \$9,420.56; Improvement Fund: \$. Attendance: 142. Sunday School Attendance: N-2nd 3, 3rd-7th 1, 8th-HS 0, Adults 43, Visitors 3, Total 50.

THIS IS THE 4th SUNDAY OF OUR PLEDGE YEAR

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR TODAY are placed today by Barbara O'Dell to the glory of God and in memory of Bill Wieland's birthday on January 26th, and by the Parlier family in remembrance of Marilyne Parlier's birthday today.

HOSPITALIZED:

CONTINUED PRAYERS: Jayme Knapp, Mike Clayton, Barb Dreher, Shawn Foote, Phyllis Wendland, Gerald Wendland, Don Sparks, Abigail Young, Eddy Jones, Al Garman, Rachael Otten, Sandra McGarity, Pat Kretzmann, Diane Hume, Donald Anderson, for those in the military, for our Church Boards and their members, for Christians being persecuted worldwide. THE BOARD OF ELDERS REMINDS YOU that if you wish to have your prayer request added to the Christ Lutheran Prayer Chain, please contact either the church office (637-5309 or laura@berkshier.net) or our Lay Minister, Reg Lee (678-4764 or fbrd2002@comcast.net).

LUTHERAN WATCH IS COMING! WATCH #43 will be held March 1-3, 2019 at the Spalding Renewal Center. Registration forms are available in the church office. Cost is \$100 for the weekend, and assistance is available should you need it. For more information, you can contact Barb O'Dell at (309)635-7962 or Pastor.

GET THOSE APPETITES READY!! - The 47th annual PANCAKE supper will be March 23. Prices remain at \$7 adults, \$4 students. Proceeds go toward the music programs at Christ Lutheran...adult choir, adult bell choir & praise band.

THANK YOU FOR THE GOOD WISHES and prayers for our 50th wedding anniversary last weekend. It was especially meaningful to us that the weekend concluded with Richard being able to preach as part of the 125th Anniversary Celebration. After 22 years in the parish ministry, Richard accepted a call to Concordia University in Chicago last January to be Asst. Vice-President for Mission and Ministry. During his years at college and seminary, Richard was helped by the Concordia Student Fund and the John Jass Memorial Fund as well as your prayers. Our family will be forever grateful to the members of Christ Lutheran Church. ~ Gary and Suzanne Heinz

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - Jesus reiterates the Old Testament command, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your mind and with all your soul and with all your might" (Deuteronomy 6:5), and He adds, "This is the great and first commandment" (Matthew 22:37-38). There is no greater joy than experiencing a close relationship with Christ. Unfortunately, our sinful selfishness prevents us from experiencing that close relationship with Jesus, but He breaks into our lives with His love. By the power of the Holy Spirit, He forgives our sins and creates a relationship with us. Because of Jesus, God calls us His children, and we call Him Father. This oneness is not only our joy, but our strength as well. Whom or what we love and follow determines how faithful we are as His stewards.

YEAR END FINANCIAL STATEMENTS are available this week in the church annex. Please be sure to stop by and pick yours up to help save us postage.

IT'S TIME FOR LIFELIGHT! - We will study the second half of the book of Romans. Classes will be held beginning the week of February 17th with a Sunday night class at 6 PM at the Schneiders' in Bartonville, a Wednesday class at 8:30 AM at the church, and a Thursday night class at 7 PM at the Rewinkels' in north Peoria. Please sign up ASAP so materials can be ordered and handed out in time for the first lesson!

DID YOU KNOW... Christ Lutheran Church had a very active Men's Club at one time. There used to be an annual rabbit fry for the congregation, provided that Rollie Grebe, Al Whitehead, Alan Jass, Fred Rosenbush and Lloyd Von Behren would bag enough rabbits in Missouri on their yearly hunting trip. In addition, there was an annual homemade sauerkraut meal that many of our German descendants looked forward to. In 2014, Larry Von Behren held a Rib and Sauerkraut dinner in honor of that tradition as a fundraiser for our youth. Submitted by Larry Von Behren and Mike Lemm

NEW DIRECTORY COMING SOON We would like to publish a new church directory by the end of next month. There are many of you who have discontinued using a landline phone or have changed your email addresses. Please give updated address, phone numbers and emails for the directory on attendance cards. Digital copies will be emailed, and printed copies will be available on request.

THE TWO-DAY INSPIRE WOMEN'S CONFERENCE is being held March 29th & 30th at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Peoria, IL. Our featured speaker is Renee Bondi who will share her story of God's faithfulness after a life-changing moment left her a quadriplegic, along with comedian Jeremy Nunes who will entertain us with his clean and witty humor. Register online at redeemerlutheran.com/conference or by mailing the brochure which can be found outside the church office. We look forward to sharing this time with you!

IF YOU AREN'T ON THE ONE CALL LIST, this is a good time to sign up! You will be notified via phone call, text or email then information is sent out regarding events or cancelled services. Forms are available outside the church office or you can call the church office (637-5309) and leave a message, or email Laura at laura@berkshier.net with your information. Service cancellations are also posted on the church's Facebook page.

BUTCH'S PIZZA FUNDRAISER FOR CLS TRACK TEAM
– see Ralph Teske if you are interested in purchasing some pizza to help the school replace the track team's uniforms. Tuesday the 29th is the last day to place an order. You can also call the school office at 637-1512.

AS YOU LOOK FORWARD to your worship next Sunday, you should read the appointed lessons for the Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany:

The First Lesson: Jeremiah 1:4-10(17—19)
The Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12:31b-13:13
The Holy Gospel: Luke 4:31-44

THIS WEEK THE LORD WILLING (JAN 28 – FEB 3)

MON 1/28: Bell Choir6:45 PM
TUE 1/29: CLS Spelling Bee
WED 1/30: Chapel..... 10:00 AM
Confirmation6:00 PM
Adult Choir7:00 PM
THU 1/31:
FRI 2/1:
SAT 2/2:
SUN 2/3: Holy Communion9:00 AM
Sunday School and Bible Classes..... 10:30 AM

2019 ELDERS' RESPONSIBILITY LIST

Albert-Rayford – Cleveland Ralph Teske
Closen – Fredericks Tommie Washington
Frederking – Kirkwood Kirk Wessler
Kisler – Mills Terry Mooney, Jr.
Minassian – Roth Mike Fritch
Rudebeck – Tosch Joshua Eckhoff
Traenkenschuh – Zentko Gary Heinz