

Sharing
Mission,
Ministry,
& Life
in Christ

The Music of Worship

We come together each week to worship together, and music is an integral part of our Lutheran worship services.

The worship service begins with the PRELUDE. This music is selected each week as a time to establish the mood or theme of the service. It is a time to sit and quiet your thoughts and prepare for worship. While the anticipation of worship and greeting friends is important, the service begins with the prelude as it acts as a buffer between the busy "secular time" of life and the focused "sacred time" of corporate worship. It aids in shifting focus from distractions to reverence. Once the prelude has begun, it is time to listen and prepare yourself for worship.

The word, liturgy, means the "work of the people" and is the structure used to tie the worship service together. Musical settings change by season or approximately every four weeks. While the music varies, the format remains the same for all services.



Hymns are selected from various sources and hymnals to enhance the season, and, most importantly, the lessons of the day. Hymns and special music are used to pull all of the themes together.

Worshipping through music transforms us. Singing allows our hearts to speak to God in a way that doesn't happen as we hear the spoken word. It inclines our hearts to God in ways other forms can't accomplish.

Music that honors God will cause our hearts to sing; and when our hearts sing, worship happens.

Deacon Jennifer

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Stewardship Celebration

What is more Lutheran than casseroles and jello?! Join us on November 9 as we celebrate our stewardship season with our annual Stewardship Celebration. The fun begins following worship in the West Wing. Prizes will be given for the casserole with the most ingredients and the most unique casserole. There will also be prizes for the most colorful Jell-O as well as the most unique Jell-O. Rev. Lindsay Fertig-Johnson, the Synod Generosity Director, will join us in worship and serve as our keynote speaker during our program. Sign up in the gathering space and see you there! *Pledges for 2026 will be dedicated on Commitment Sunday, November 23.*

All Saints

A special commemoration will be observed on November 2, All Saints Sunday, when we honor our loved ones who have gained their heavenly reward. A bulletin insert will remember all those who have entered the church triumphant, and those who have passed since last All Saints Sunday will have their names read aloud. A special lighting of candles will also be included as a symbolic remembrance.



New Member Sunday

Christ Lutheran will receive new members on November 2. We look forward to welcoming new friends to our church family.



Poinsettias

Help us decorate for the coming Advent and Christmas seasons. Orders for poinsettia plants will be received from November 9 through December 7. Cost is \$12 per plant. Those ordering plants may take their home following worship on January 4. Forms will be available in the gathering space starting November 9.

Advent Devotional

Humble and Holy continues a centuries-old Christian tradition of setting aside time to prepare for the celebration of Jesus' birth and anticipate his return during the season of Advent. This devotional offers daily devotions from the first Sunday of Advent (November 30) through Epiphany (January 6). Household blessings and prayers are also included to enrich your preparations and celebrations. Scripture readings, evocative images, reflections, and prayers center readers in the moment and guide them forward in this journey of anticipation.

Pick up your copy in the front entryway beginning Sunday, November 23.

Healing Service

A Healing Service will be held on November 30 following worship. Join us for a brief time of prayer, laying on of hands, and anointing in the choir loft area of the sanctuary.

Financial Update *through 9/30/25*

Budgeted Contributions YTD:	\$ 353,690
Actual Contributions YTD:	\$ 369,159
Actual Expenses YTD:	\$ 333,866
Net Surplus or (Loss)	\$ 35,293

Thank you for your generous and continuous support of Making Christ Known.

Respectfully submitted: Elizabeth Brinkley, Treasurer

We Are Family

Have you noticed the front bulletin board in the gathering space? Right now it is filled with pictures of our fall activities, but soon we'd like to change it up with pictures of your family gatherings, trips, special events or Christmas card. Bring in a recent photo of your family and place it in the marked basket at the Info Center. Pictures are requested by November 30. We will then post the pictures on the board so we can all enjoy them during the holiday season. Let's celebrate the gift of our families!



November 2
Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18
Psalm 149
Ephesians 1:11-23
Luke 6:20-31

November 9
Job 19:23-27a
Psalm 17:1-9
2 Thess 2:1-5, 13-17
Luke 20:27-38

November 16
Malachi 4:1-2a
Psalm 98
2 Thess 3:6-13
Luke 21:5-19

November 23
Jeremiah 23:1-6
Psalm 46
Colossians 1:11-20
Luke 23:33-43

November 30
Isaiah 2:1-5
Matthew 1:1-17

Spirit Wear Pick Up

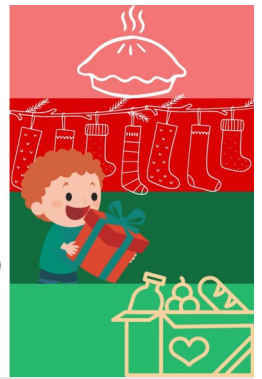
PATHWAYS and CLC spirit wear orders will be available for pick up at church in early November. Once we have the shipment in hand, watch the weekly announcements for information on a pick up date.

Service & Outreach

It's that time again — help us spread some hope for the holidays! You can donate money for Empower Boone's Meal-in-a-Bag (the pantry can get \$8 worth of food for each \$1 donated) and pies for Rockford Rescue Mission's Thanksgiving banquet. Also, you can give monetarily toward Christmas stockings for our Mosaic friends. Finally, check out our Angel Tree in the gathering space and spread some cheer to a child/teen in foster care. Thank you for helping spread cheer this holiday season.

HOPE

FOR THE
HOLIDAYS



DEADLINES

NOV 12 — donations for Thanksgiving pies & Meal-in-a-Bag

DEC 3 — Angel Tree gifts & Christmas stocking donations

Adult Forum

Our scripture study on stewardship continues on November 2 with a focus on restoration. We will not meet on November 9 in lieu of the stewardship celebration, but pick back up November 16 as Deacon Laura shares her experience at Churchwide Assembly this past summer. As for later in the month, see this special note from Pastor Jeff:

What does it mean to be the Church in days such as these? Let's explore that question in five stand-alone sessions as it relates to the ELCA's recently adopted social statement, "Faith and Civic Life." This Adult Forum, facilitated by Pastor Jeff Clements, will begin Sunday, November 23.

Godly Play

meets November 2 & 16. We hope all our young friends can join us. Learning is fun!

Lighting the Way

Thank you to Ken Weidman and Allen Paskus for their wonderful work this fall to install an outlet by our sign. This has already proven beneficial in the lighting of our sign in the evening hours. And not to bury the lead, but with this new receptacle we are able to have Christmas lights by the road this year to better light our entrance and convey a spirit of invitation and warmth to all who pass by. We



are thankful for the multiple people and committees who are contributing to cover this expense — a true collaboration. What a joyous way to shine Christ's light for all to see. Watch for the lights display at the end of the month.

Christ in Literature

Antoinette Cosway, the madwoman in the attic from Charlotte Bronte's *Jane Eyre*, is the main focus of Jean Rhys's *Wide Sargasso Sea*. Join us November 3 at 3 pm as we discuss this take on a fascinating character from a literary classic.

Giving Thanks

November is synonymous with gratitude, and we aim to show ours this month in full force. Our third annual "THANKFUL" series on our Facebook page will highlight the dozens of ways that we are thankful for our church. Be sure to follow the [CLC page](#) as we share a "thankful" post each day of the month. Even better, please LIKE, COMMENT or SHARE our posts.

thankful



Christ Lutheran

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makingChristknown.org

[facebook.com/Christ.Belvidere](https://www.facebook.com/Christ.Belvidere)

Also on Facebook, search:

Pathways: A Center for Spiritual Renewal

† **Worship:** Sundays 9:00 am

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Interim Minister
Minister for Worship & Music
Dir. of Outreach & Communications
Finance & Office Administrator
Church Musician

Did someone say pie?

Join us in giving thanks for God's abundant blessings during Thanksgiving Eve Worship. Our 7pm service will be followed by our annual Pie Fest celebration. Share your favorite pie recipe with our church family or purchase a pie — rest assured, all will be graciously received. Sign up in the gathering space.

**WEDNESDAY
NOV 26**

WORSHIP & PIE FEST