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Calm amidst the storm



And waking up, He rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?" Mark 4:39–41

Have you still no faith? I've often wondered how Jesus said these words to His disciples. We can imagine a number of tones: annoyance, impatience, authority, love. The disciples believe they are in mortal danger. They do the right thing. Who would not wake the Lord in terror? And the storm stops and the sea becomes calm. Jesus is equal to the task. Consider being in a storm capable of taking life. Some of us have felt that fear. Can you imagine it suddenly stopping and becoming calm? It is no wonder they are still afraid! *Who is this?* They've seen healings and exorcisms which are incredible enough, but to control the sky? Now they have seen a wonder indeed.

Recently, I was praying for guidance for this new role I've been asked to fill, and along with the enthusiasm and energy I feel, there were concerns. I thought to myself the words *Lord God Almighty...* That was to be the beginning of a prayer, yet I found myself stopping at the last word – *Almighty*. All mighty. Well, do I believe that or not? It's okay to be afraid. It's okay to doubt. These are natural, human feelings. Yet, wouldn't it be more effective to have courage? To remain calm and be patient? To love and forgive? To trust? I found myself laughing out loud because it turns out I do believe that! That is the God I worship with you on Sunday morning. The Lord God Almighty!

We are in the middle of a storm at CLC. How will we respond? Jesus continued to trust His disciples, despite their human failings. We are a faithful, blessed congregation—the beloved of God. We have much to celebrate. We can give thanks for much. So when doubt, fear, anger, or shame come, let us know that it's okay to feel that way. Just catch those feelings in the act, and lovingly and firmly, say *Are you still so fearful [angry, ashamed]?* *Why do you have no faith?* And then set them aside and decide to trust in the Lord God Almighty. With God's Grace, we are equal to the task. Amen!

Jenny Campbell,
CLC President

we are
equal to
the task

Call Committee

Transition Update

At the February 11 Annual Meeting, the CLC Call Committee slate was introduced and affirmed. Committee members include:

- Jack Wilson (chair)
- Diane Larsen (secretary)
- Sandy Stansell (communicator)
- Kris Campbell (spiritual guide)
- Tammy Ferrin
- Natalie Mander
- Jean Salley
- Deacon Laura Gorton

The committee will have met at least three times by the time of this printing, including a joint meeting with the Transition Team (which has officially ended its work). Frequent updates from the committee can be expected at each step of the process.

Healing Service

PATHWAYS will offer a brief service of healing following both services on Sunday, March 17. Join us for prayer, laying on of hands, and anointing in the sanctuary.



PATHWAYS

Offered the first Thursday of each month, **Spiritual Practices** introduces different ancient practices to assist us in joining God in the spending of every day. Join us at our next offering Thursday, March 7 at 10 am.

Enneagram Workshop (special two part event)

The Enneagram is a dynamic system for gaining self-knowledge and spiritual transformation. This upcoming PATHWAYS offering provides a viable mechanism to achieve healthier relationships and mindful living. Your \$50 registration fee includes the Enneagram assessment (taken prior to March 9), book and lunch on May 4. Early registration is strongly encouraged. Visit seekthepath.org for more details and to register.

ENNEAGRAM WORKSHOP

UNLOCKING WHOLENESS, BELONGING & COMMUNITY
A TWO PART WORKSHOP

March 9

Zoom offering 10-11:30am

May 4

In person gathering
9am-3pm

Included in this two part workshop is an Enneagram assessment, book, and lunch on May 4.

\$50 REGISTRATION FEE

**MORE DETAILS & REGISTRATION AT
SEEKTHEPATH.ORG**

Lenten Wednesdays

Join us in these Wednesday Lenten evenings as we embrace the journey together.

5:30 pm Soup Supper

6:15 pm Education

7:00 pm Holden Evening Prayer

The set-up and clean-up schedule is as follows:

March 6: PATHWAYS, Stewardship

March 13: Service & Outreach, Education, Evangelism

March 20: Council

March 3

Psalm 19
Matthew 16:13-20

March 10

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
Matthew 16:21-23

March 17

Psalm 119:9-16
Matthew 18:15-22

March 24

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16
John 12:12-16
Mark 15:1-3a [40-47]

March 31

Psalm 16:8-11
Luke 24:1-12



Education

Adult Forum: This month, we will hear presentations from CLC Mission Endowment Fund grant recipients.

- MAR 3: Elaine Hirschenberger, founder of Womanspace
MAR 10: Empower Boone
MAR 17: President David Novak will preach and others will present from LSSI

There will be no adult forum on Palm Sunday or Easter Sunday.

Godly Play: Please note that our fun and learning dates this month are March 3 and 17. As we move closer to Easter, join us for important stories about Jesus' life.

Service & Outreach

Help us celebrate ELCA World Hunger's 50th anniversary of Good Gifts by sponsoring an animal or project which will help people all around the world. All donations are due Easter Sunday, March 31. See the table in the gathering space for more information.

NOTE: Please make checks payable to Christ Lutheran Church.



Young Adults

The young adult group is coming up on 3 years now since we've started getting together! This next event will be a game night at Allie & Kevin Flack's house with games and plenty of food! We are looking forward to hosting on Saturday, March 9 at 6 pm. All young adults at CLC are welcome!

Stations of the Cross

As part of CLC's Holy Week offering, our beautiful Stations of the Cross will be available in the sanctuary for private meditation during office hours from 9 am to 3 pm on Monday, March 25 through Wednesday, March 27. If the building is open those evenings, you are also welcome then. We give thanks for these tiles that poignantly illustrate Christ's walk to the cross.



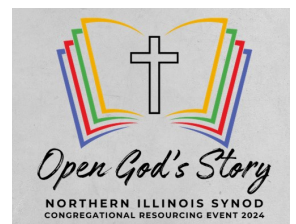
In the CLC Family We express our condolences to the family of Janet Johnson who died January 5, and the family of Linda Larson who died February 3. May light perpetual shine on these saints. +

Christ in Literature

Inspired by the historical figure of Sarah Grimke, *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd follows the journeys of two women over thirty five years: Sarah, and her slave Handful, who was gifted to her on her eleventh birthday. Join in the discussion of this riveting book on March 4, beginning at 3 pm.

Congregational Resourcing Event

The Congregational Resourcing Event (CRE) of the Northern Illinois Synod will be held March 16 at Sauk Valley Community College in Dixon, IL. Centered around the theme of *Opening God's Story*, there will be workshops around worship, education, leadership, and outreach. The day will also include a large ministry fair with 14 organizations participating. Registration begins at 8:30 am with opening prayer beginning at 9:30 am. Tickets are \$35 each and include breakfast treats, coffee all day, and lunch. Visit nisynod.org/programs/cre to register today!





Christ Lutheran

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Phone: 815-885-2522

makingChristknown.org

 facebook.com/Christ.Belvidere

Also on Facebook, search:

Pathways: A Center for Spiritual Renewal

† **Worship:** Sundays 8:00 & 10:30 am

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Our Council

Jenny Campbell	President
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Jeff Bieck	Treasurer
Jenny Breckenridge	Council Member
Elizabeth Brinkley	Council Member
John Herring	Council Member
Peter Hightower	Council Member
Lori Murphy	Council Member
Denise Rindels	Council Member
Don Skadow	Council Member
Dave Swanson	Council Member

Our Staff

Deacon Laura Gorton	Acting Interim Minister
Deacon Jennifer Fox	Minister for Worship & Music
Katie Belinson	Dir. of Outreach & Communications
Dagny Brandt	Church Musician
Michelle Nelson	Finance & Office Administrator
Chris Parkinson	Church Musician

Holy Week

Palm Sunday, March 24 at 8 & 10:30 am

Worship begins with the triumphal march of waving palms into Jerusalem as the readings launch the journey to the cross.

Maundy Thursday, March 28 at 7 pm

Worship focuses on the last supper with Jesus washing the disciples' feet. Holy Communion will be celebrated and we finish this first night of the Triduum with the stripping of the altar.

Good Friday, March 29 at 7 pm

Through the readings, we journey to the cross with the crucifixion of Jesus and a dying of the light.

The Easter Vigil, March 30 at 7 pm

We enter in darkness and light the way with the blessing of the Paschal candle from the new fire. We celebrate a baptism and share a Holy Communion with the resurrection of our Lord.

Easter, March 31 at 8 & 10:30 am

We celebrate the resurrection of the Lord with resounding music, Holy Communion and the hope for new life.

Invite your kids, grandkids and neighbors to join us for Easter. There will be a special gift for the kids and an Alleluia celebration. *Christ is Risen!*

