

# Christ Lutheran Church

Germantown, Maryland

*Epistle To The Saints*

**January, 2021**

**Service at 10:30 AM each Sunday**

- ❖ Friday, January 1<sup>st</sup>-Happy New Year!
- ❖ Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup>-Church Council Meeting 1 PM
- ❖ Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>-Annual Meeting



***"Seek the LORD and His strength; Seek His face continually.  
Remember His wonderful deeds which He has done, His marvels and the  
judgments from His mouth".***

***-1 Chronicles 16:11-12***

## Welcome!

Service will be held at 10:30 Sunday mornings. Social distancing is required and masks, gloves and hand sanitizer are available. Please let Pastor know if you plan to attend.

To view the livestream of our services, go to the church Facebook page (Christ Lutheran Church AALC) or go to our website ([christlutheranofgermantown.org](http://christlutheranofgermantown.org)) and click the link at the bottom of the first page. Once on the FB page click the "videos" tab. Bulletins for our services are on the website.

*“Therefore if anyone is in Christ, this person is a new creation; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their wrongdoings against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.”*

*-2 Corinthians 5:17-19 NASB*

When a new year rolls around oftentimes people will come up with New Year’s resolutions. They set goals they want to meet or things they want to improve about themselves in the new year. Common resolutions are wanting to lose weight or desiring to learn a new skill or hobby. The resolutions people choose range from the mundane to the grand such as wanting to be more kind or patient in the coming year.

Why do people like to make New Year’s resolutions in the first place? Well, the new year serves as a benchmark, a perceived opportunity for a fresh start or a new change. People often think, “Maybe this year things will be different.” New Year’s resolutions are perfectly fine, but the truth is we don’t have to wait for a new year or some benchmark to make a new start. We have that opportunity every day.

This truth points us to a greater reality in regard to our relationship with God. Many times believers think their justification and reconciliation with God was an event that occurred in the past at their baptism or when they first came to faith in Christ. This is most certainly true. But God doesn’t tie our salvation to a single time and place in our lives. He is far too generous for that.

One of my favorite articles in our Lutheran Confessions contained within the Book of Concord comes from Martin Luther’s Smalcald Articles Part III, Article IV: Of the Gospel where Luther states that God is superabundantly rich in his grace for he grants forgiveness to us through his preached word, in baptism and the Lord’s Supper, through confession and absolution, and mutual conversation and consolation of the brethren (Matt 18:20). And the first of Luther’s 95 Theses states that the whole life of a Christian is one of repentance.

Luther was saying that we can be renewed and reconciled to God every day. We don’t have to wait for a new year. We don’t have to “get right with God,” as if we could reconcile ourselves to him through personal effort. God grants us his grace and mercy, even his own Spirit, every moment of our lives. I am writing this on Christmas Day, 2020. And I do not have to wait until January 1 to start again and be renewed in God’s grace. Because we are in Him every day we are renewed in His grace, and every day is an opportunity to be renewed in personal holiness and piety. We were made a new creation in him. We are being made new. And we will be finally made new in the day of Christ Jesus. Amen.

*-Pastor Abraham McNally*

**January Birthday's**

5<sup>th</sup>-Irvin Stapf

6<sup>th</sup>-Reagan Herndon

20<sup>th</sup>-Samantha Shriver

31<sup>st</sup>-Grant Herndon

**January Baptisms**

24<sup>th</sup>-Janice Delagrange

27<sup>th</sup>-Brian Nichols

27<sup>th</sup>-Carly Nichols

30<sup>th</sup>-Charlotte Gray

"The best thing about the future is that it comes only one day at a time."

-Abraham Lincoln

Do you not know? Have you not heard?  
The Everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth  
Does not become weary or tired.  
His understanding is unsearchable.  
He gives strength to the weary,  
And to *the one who* lacks might He increases power.  
Though youths grow weary and tired,  
And vigorous young men stumble badly,  
Yet those who <sup>(a)</sup>wait for the LORD  
Will gain new strength;  
They will <sup>(b)</sup>mount up *with* wings like eagles,  
They will run and not get tired,  
They will walk and not become weary.  
-Isaiah 40:28-31

**PRAYER AND PRAISE**

**IRVIN STAPF:** Father, we thank you for your continued healing in Pastor Stapf.

**LAURA NICHOLS:** Father, we praise you for your continued healing in Laura.

**MARK BALLARD:** Lord, thank you for blessing Mark with your healing mercies.

**NANCY GREGORY:** Father, we ask you to be with Nancy and help her to feel comfort and peace, as well as Your love.

**PASTOR CURTIS LEINS:** Father, we thank you for Pastor Leins. We pray that you will keep him in your care and bless his work in Your name.

**PASTOR ABRAHAM MCNALLY:** We thank you Lord, for sending Pastor Abraham to us. Be with him as he continues to be a blessing to our congregation.

**ART DELAGRANGE:** Lord we ask that you heal Art and rid him of pain.

**DONALD BURDETTE:** Father, please continue to heal Donnie.

**DIANNE WENTZELL:** Lord Jesus, we pray that you heal Dianne and give her comfort.

**CLYDE GIBSON:** We thank you Father, for watching over and healing Clyde. Continue to bless and comfort him Lord.


**FOR OUR CONGREGATION:** Father, we ask your merciful goodness in providing us with the wisdom, discernment and courage to do Your will.

**FOR OUR CHILDREN:** Lord, keep each of them strong in You each day. Protect them and guide them in the plan that You have for each of them.

**FOR OUR PASTORS:** By the power and presence of the Holy Spirit, please uphold and help them stand firm in the truth of Your gracious word.

**FOR THOSE SERVING AWAY FROM HOME:** Father please guide them in Your mercy and bless them with the fullness of Your love.



 Like us on Facebook.

Christ Lutheran Church AALC  
Pastor McNally has our Facebook page  
looking great! Lots of wonderful  
information about our church, congregation,  
and news.

Every week the service's video is posted.  
AWESOME!

Not all storms come  
to disrupt your life,  
some come to clear  
your path.

*~Amen~*

[christlutheranofgermantown.org](http://christlutheranofgermantown.org)

We encourage you to provide Jeane with  
your comments and things that you think  
would add additional value to the site.



<b>January</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Pianist/Organist</b>	Helen	Jan	Meryl	Helen	Jan

Coloring fun for children (and children at heart)





*The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you; The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, And give you peace.*

*-Numbers 6:24-26*



## **Epistle To The Saints**

**January 2021**

**Christ Lutheran Church**

23425 Davis Mill Road

Germantown, MD 20876

**Facebook:** [Christ Lutheran Church AALC](#)

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