Christ Lutheran Church
23425 Davis Mill Road
Germantown, Maryland 20876

A Congregation of the American Association of Lutheran Churches

Our Mission Statement
We strive to be worthy witnesses to the world.

At Christ Lutheran, we strive to lead lives <u>worthy</u> of our calling as <u>witnesses</u> to the Good News of Jesus Christ in God's <u>world</u>.
(Ephesians 4:1)

Web Site: clcmd.org or christlutheranofgermantown.org
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Church Secretary:	Carrie Shriver Perini Mobile phone: 240 397-3498 Email: perinicarrie@gmail.com
Pastor Emeritus:	Irvin Stapf
Pastor:	Vacant
Vicar:	Chris Clarke
Liturgist:	Bob Petersen

Third Sunday in Lent
March 8, 2026

During the music before the service let us join in a time of prayer and meditation as we prepare our hearts for worship.

Please stand as you are able where marked*

Greetings and Announcements

Prelude

*****The Confession and Absolution***

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.
Pastor: If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
(A time of silent reflection and self-examination.)
Pastor: Most merciful God.
People: We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen
Pastor: Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for you and for his sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare unto you the entire forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen. Thanks be to God.

******Opening Hymn**: **My Jesus, I Love Thee** **P&P #210***

My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine,
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign;
My gracious Redeemer, my Saviour art Thou;
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I love Thee, because Thou hast first loved me,
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree;
I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow;
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I'll love Thee in life. I will love Thee in death,
And praise Thee as long as Thou lendest me breath;
And say when the death-dew lies cold on my brow,
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore Thee in heaven so bright;
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow,
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

Psalm: **Psalm 95:1-9 (read responsively)**

Liturgist: [1] Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;
People: let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.
Liturgist: [2] Let us come before him with thanksgiving
People: and extol him with music and song.
Liturgist: [3] For the Lord is the great God,
People: the great King above all gods.
Liturgist: [4] In his hand are the depths of the earth,
People: and the mountain peaks belong to him.
Liturgist: [5] The sea is his, for he made it,
People: and his hands formed the dry land.
Liturgist: [6] Come, let us bow down in worship,
People: let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;
Liturgist: [7] for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.
People: Today, if you hear his voice,
Liturgist: [8] do not harden your hearts as you did at Meribah,
People: as you did that day at Massah in the desert,
Liturgist: [9] where your fathers tested and tried me,
People: though they had seen what I did.

******The Gloria Patri: (sung)*** *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

******The Kyrie:*** (**responses are sung**)

Liturgist: Lord, have mercy upon us.
People: *Lord, have mercy upon us.*
Liturgist: Christ, have mercy upon us.
People: *Christ, have mercy upon us.*
Liturgist: Lord, have mercy upon us.
People: *Lord, have mercy upon us.*
Liturgist: Glory be to God on high!

******Gloria in Excelsis: (sung)*** *And on earth peace, goodwill toward men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen*

******Collect:***
Liturgist: The Lord be with you.
People: *And with thy spirit.*
Liturgist: Let us pray.
People: We beseech thee, Almighty God, look upon the hearty desires of thy humble servants, and stretch forth the right hand of thy Majesty to be our defence against all our enemies; through thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

The Scripture Lessons:

First Reading: Exodus 17:1-7

1 All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages,
according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the
people to drink. 2 Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." And
Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" 3 But the people
thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us up
out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?" 4 So Moses cried to the LORD,
"What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." 5 And the LORD said to Moses,
"Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the
staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. 6 Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at
Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink." And
Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. 7 And he called the name of the
place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested
the LORD by saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

Liturgist: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Lesson: Romans 5:1-8

1 Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord
Jesus Christ. 2 Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand,
and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. 3 Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing
that suffering produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces character, and character produces
hope, 5 and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through
the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.
6 For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For one will
scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to
die— 8 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Liturgist: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

******The Lenten Sentence: (sung)*** *Christ hath humbled himself, and become obedient unto death: even the death of the Cross.*

Vicar: Lift up your hearts and hear the Holy Gospel as it is recorded in the fourth chapter of Saint John beginning with the fifth verse.
*****People (sung)** Glory be to thee, O Lord

Gospel Lesson: John 4:5-26

5 So he came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son
Joseph. 6 Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the
well. It was about the sixth hour.

7 A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." 8 (For his
disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) 9 The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that
you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with
Samaritans.) 10 Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you,
'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." 11 The
woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you
get that living water? 12 Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it
himself, as did his sons and his livestock." 13 Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will
be thirsty again, 14 but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The
water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life." 15 The
woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw
water."

16 Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." 17 The woman answered him, "I
have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; 18 for you have had
five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true." 19 The
woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. 20 Our fathers worshiped on this mountain,
but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship." 21 Jesus said to
her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you
worship the Father. 22 You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation
is from the Jews. 23 But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship
the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. 24 God is spirit, and
those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." 25 The woman said to him, "I know
that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things." 26 Jesus
said to her, "I who speak to you am he."

Vicar: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

*****People:** ***(sung)*** *Praise be to thee, O Christ*

Children's Sermon: ***Vicar Chris Clarke***

Pulpit Hymn: ***Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain*** ***Hymnal #82***

Come to Calvary's holy mountain, Sinners, ruined by the fall;
Here a pure and healing fountain Flows to you, to me, to all;
In a full perpetual tide, Opened when our Saviour died.

Come in poverty and meanness, Come de-filed, with-out, with-in;
From infection and uncleanness, From the leprosy of sin,
Wash your robes and make them white; Ye shall walk with God in light.

Come in sorrow and condition, Wounded, impotent, and blind;
Here the guilty, free remission, Here the troubled, peace may find:
Health this fountain will restore; He that drinks shall thirst no more.

He that drinks shall live forever; 'Tis a soul-renewing flood:
God is faithful; God will never Break his covenant of blood,
Signed when our Redeemer died, Sealed when he was glorified.

Sermon: ***Vicar Chris Clarke***

The Sermon Response: (sung) *Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right Spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation and uphold me with thy free spirit.*

******Passing of the Peace***

******The Apostles' Creed:***

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; The holy Christian Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.

******The General Prayer: (after each petition)***
Vicar: Lord in your mercy.
People: Hear our prayer.

******The Lord's Prayer:***
Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name, Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

******The Prayer Response: (sung)***
Hear our prayer, O Lord. Hear our prayer, O Lord. Incline thine ear to us and grant us thy peace. Amen.

******The Benediction**:*
Vicar: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.
People: ***(sung)*** *A-men, A-men, A----men.*

******Closing Hymn:*** ***Are You Washed in the Blood?*** ***P&P #124***

Have you been to Jesus for the cleansing power?
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?
Are you fully trusting in His grace this hour?
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb? ***(Chorus)***

Are you washed…in the blood…
In the soul cleansing blood of the Lamb?
Are your garments spotless? Are they white as snow?
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?

Are you walking daily by the Saviour's side?
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?
Do you rest each moment in the Crucified?
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb? ***(Chorus)***

When the Bridegroom cometh will your robes be white?
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?
Will your soul be ready for the mansions bright,
And be washed by the blood of the Lamb? ***(Chorus)***

Lay aside the garments that are stained with sin,
And be washed in the blood of the Lamb?
There's a fountain flowing for the soul unclean,
O be washed in the blood of the Lamb? ***(Chorus)***

******The Postlude***

Prayers and Praises:

For our church leaders:

Presiding Pastor: Rev. Dr. Carey G. Larson
Assistant Presiding Pastor: Rev. Roger Twito
AALC Administrator: Rev. Dean Stoner
Secretary Pastor: Rev. Joe Marsh
Home Mission Developer: Rev. Joe Christina
National Office Manager: Bonnie Ohlrich
Seminary President: Rev. Dr. Jordan Cooper
Seminary Administrator: Duane Kleven

Robin Nicholson	Hope Johnston	Dorothy Foster	Brian Gray
Rebecca Robinson	Bill Trall	Harvey Jester	Justin Serene
Fred Carlson	Bob Petersen	Norita Shipley	Debbie Stapf
Ben Flynn	Meryl Benenati	Rodney Perini	Mary Neighly
Ana Soulen	The Reverend Joe Christina		

For those that have suffered loss due to hurricanes, fires, and other natural disasters
For the President and the leaders of our nation
For those in the armed Services: Grace Gorevin, Zach Gorevin, Christopher Clarke, Bethany Hueter, Cameron Donk, Ethan Stone, Wendy Ahern, Kris Johnson
For our Seminary Students: Chris Clarke, Kris Johnson
For a Region congregation: First English Lutheran Church, Gibsonburg, OH
For our missionary work: Pastor Scott Yount
For those being persecuted for their faith in Christ
For the congregations of our Germantown/Clarksburg/Damascus community: Difference Makers Church
For the congregations of the American Association of Lutheran Churches
For our college students: Maddie Day, Joseph Flesch, Jude Stapf, Paul Stapf

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Men's Bible Study: Monday – 11 AM at Joe Flesch's home.**
- **Women's Bible Study: Wednesday – 10 AM at Church.**
- **Adult Sunday School and Children's Sunday School at 9:30 AM.**
- **You may continue to watch the Sunday services (10:30 AM) via Livestream on Facebook – Christ Lutheran Church AALC. The Bulletins for the services are on our website: clcmd.org or christlutheranofgermantown.org. The video of every livestream is on our Facebook page. You can access the livestream by clicking the link at the bottom of the first page of our website or by visiting the Facebook page directly. Be sure to click on the 'videos' tab.**
- **We will be collecting canned fruits and vegetables for Damascus HELP during the month of March. There is a collection bin in the Narthex.**
- **Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be after our service today.**
- **Don't forget to pick up your Lenten devotional booklet in the hallway.**