



**This Week at Christ Lutheran Church
December 20-27, 2020**

Sunday – December 20 – 4th Sunday in Advent

10:00 a.m. Virtual Worship
5:00 p.m. Confirmation via Zoom
7:00 p.m. Mosaic

Monday – December 21

7:00 p.m. Sisters Bible Study via Zoom

Wednesday – December 23

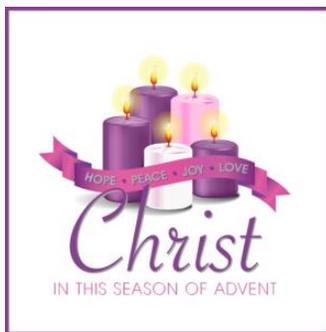
10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting via Zoom

Thursday – December 24

4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Family Service
7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Note: these services are on YouTube

Sunday – December 27

10:00 a.m. Virtual Worship



Sunday Worship: In-person worship has been suspended until further notice. CLC will hold weekly virtual services on our YouTube page at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays. You can find the video at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/c/ChristLutheranChurchWyoming/videos>. Please note that the video link will go “live” at 10:00 a.m. A bulletin is available so you can follow along. The link is included in the Friday E-News and can be found on the Announcement page of our website.

Prayer Requests:

*Prayers of answers and healing for Lisa Bush who has a tumor in her head and multiple surgeries have not helped. She also has blood clots in her legs.
*Prayers of strength, comfort, and healing for Melinda and Justin who are fighting depression.
*Because we are not worshipping in person, we are not able to collect prayer cards. If you would like to share a prayer request in next week’s announcements, please call or email Audrey: 616-532-2774 or office@clcwyoming.org If you are in need of prayer, please contact Pastor Justin: pastorjustin@clcwyoming.org.

Christmas Recognition of Staff: As part of the holidays and customary practice at CLC, we give staff a gift in recognition of the work they do on our behalf. If you would like to contribute, please make a contribution by marking an envelope as “Staff Gift” and place it in the Treasurer’s office mailbox, drop it off at the church office during office hours or mail to CLC (Attention “Treasurer” with note “Staff Gift Donation”) by December 19. It is another way you can provide the spirit of Christmas to people who work on our behalf every week despite the pandemic. *Curt Johnson, Council President*

Word In Season: The new devotional for January/February/March 2021 has arrived! If you are in the area during office hours, please feel free to stop and get a copy. If you would like one mailed to you, please let Audrey know by phone (532-2774) or email

office@clcwyoming.org) – be sure to specify in your message if you would like the regular size or large print!

Thank You for Your Contributions! The Mission Support Committee would like to personally thank you for your consistent generosity throughout the year and helping us do the powerful ministry we have been called to at Christ Lutheran Church. Through your generosity we look forward to ending the year as we prepare for another year of ministry together. As 2020 comes to a close, it is not too late to still make a difference through your generous support of the ongoing ministries of our church family. We invite you to prayerfully consider what God might be able to do through you at this time of the year. All contributions must be received in the office by Monday, December 28, to be credited for 2020. Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity! Even though God has done amazing things through our congregation this year, we know that the best is yet to come.

1 Peter 4:10-11 - Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Farewell To Audrey Geers: Although most of us will be glad to see the end of 2020, there have been countless blessings in the midst of trial. At CLC, one of our biggest blessings has been to have Audrey here in her vital role as Administrative Secretary. We invite you to celebrate her years of dedicated service to our ministry by sending in cards and messages of gratitude. Let's "shower" Audrey with our heartfelt appreciation as she begins a new chapter in her life.

Open Position: Do you or someone you know enjoy greeting other people with warmth and making them feel welcome? Do you have a talent for thinking globally and keeping staff and church council informed of fluid calendars and new developments? Do you have an aptitude for social media, office administrative and publication skills? If you or someone you know possess these skills and are looking for rewarding part-time employment, Christ Lutheran Church is keenly interested in learning more. A full job description for CLC's new Administrative Assistant and how to apply is on the CLC website. Or you can contact one of the members of the search team for additional information: Pete VanGessel (petevangessel@gmail.com), Vicki Blubaugh (vmusnd@gmail.com), and Suzanne Johnson (sz.ch23@gmail.com).

Support the CLC Live Streaming Project: Good News! Our worship service is going to be available online into the future! The Church Council has approved the purchase of a video streaming system to support this form of outreach to our church members and the community at large. In order to cover the expense of this technology, we are asking for your help. A contribution to this project will allow us to provide a reliable, consistent, quality online worship experience.

You may send your benevolent contributions to the church office earmarked, *The CLC Live Streaming Project*. Thank you for supporting this important avenue of outreach. We greatly appreciate your continued financial support through your weekly offerings. The Ministers of the Church are the People.

From Michael & Jen – The People Behind the Camera: In March when COVID started we knew we needed to offer our church community the ability to view the services from the safety of their home. So we volunteered to get a livestream going. We cobbled together a system with our own personal equipment and some purchased elements that "worked" enough to get the video out there. Each Sunday this has been ridden with headaches and not one went smoothly. As the months progressed it was recognized by other members of the church what a great asset this could be and were tasked with finding a reliable and permanent solution that the church owns. We worked with a few local companies to get quotes and ideas and with the approval of church council we have selected a system that will provide our church with a vibrant, engaging live stream for the church to spread the message of Jesus Christ for years to come.

The goals of this system reach much further into the future than just getting us through this time of quarantine. The vision is to help our church build a larger online presence that helps our members connect with a broader audience of potential church attendees. There are a lot of statistics reporting that people watch a church's live stream several times before attending an in-person service. By installing this system it will allow us to have a more personal, professional and interactive live stream experience, connecting our service to a greater audience. The system we've proposed also allows for future expansion and adaptation for years to come, as our needs may shift and change. This could include video and slide distribution throughout our church building, allowing for overflow and a feed to the nursery.

Thank you for your support and consideration of this outreach opportunity. We feel passionate about it and the need to keep us a relevant and connected church to first of all our own congregation and secondly the broader community.

Family Fare Receipts are still being collected here at CLC to benefit our Youth. If you have some or are collecting them and are ready to turn them in, you can drop them off during office hours or contact Tara to figure out a way to get them here!

Offering Envelopes for 2021 are available in the Gathering Space for you to pick up during office hours. If you do not find your name, please contact Hal in the office on Monday or Thursday.

Stay Connected: CLC has a **YouTube Channel**. There is a link on our website www.clcwyoming.org that you can use to subscribe, however you don't need to subscribe to see the messages. We also have a private Facebook page called **CLC Friends**, where you can stay connected with others from CLC. Search CLC Friends and request to be a member; we will get you connected.

Christmas Greetings from CLC Staff

On behalf of our homebound members and our Evangelism team, I wanted to wish you a very Merry Christmas. Working with them is a special pleasure that makes each Christmas “the best ever.” While this year has been Covid-crazy, we have still remained connected through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. May you all genuinely have the best Christmas ever! While the look and feel might change, its meaning does not. May you feel God’s peace, especially this holiday season.

Patrick Blanchard, Outreach Coordinator

I want to take a moment to wish the people in this wonderful congregation, my “second church family,” a Blessed Merry Christmas! In the midst of all of the unknowns lately, Christ is with us and is blessing each of you in ways you may not even be aware of!

I also wish you a safe, happy and healthy New Year!

Audrey Geers

Hello everyone! I know this year has been hard for a lot of us and we are all doing our best to stay safe. Looking at Christmas this year, I see some of the blessings that I have had during all the chaos and unknown. For me, I have had more time with my family, my second niece was born, and one of my favorite blessings in 2020 was starting as the Youth and Family Ministry Coordinator here at CLC. Yes, I have only done about two weeks in person with most of you and the rest has been online, but since March, I have another family - my Church family. You have all made me feel supported, blessed, and welcomed this year. I have had some rough times this year as well, just like most of you but that has not stopped the joy that I have for you all and the motivation that I must work hard for the families here at CLC.

With everything online, it is hard on our youth and I get that. I have been sending Sunday School kits to the families who signed up (if you do not get them and would like them, please contact me so I can add you to the list), we do Zoom Confirmation, and Mosaic on Zoom as well. When we get some good sledding snow, there will be a socially distanced sledding activity for Confirmation and Mosaic! That will be a last-minute activity since it all depends on snow, so keep an eye out!

I hope you all have a safe and blessed holiday. I know things will look different from previous years but no matter what, Jesus is with us all! Merry Christmas and I hope to see you all soon, no matter if it is in person or on Zoom!

Tara Williams



CLC Family, I hope this note finds you well.

This truly is the most wonderful time of the year! That being said, it is a time of the year that is in danger of being overly romanticized and idealized. I mean, do you actually think the words we sing, “but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes” are quite accurate? I think not. Tears and other bodily functions were most certainly part of Christ’s entire life, including of course his infancy.

For many, tears will undoubtedly be a part of our Christmas and New Year celebrations this year. As such, I pray that as you celebrate the birth of the Christ child you will be filled with the presence of his Spirit. I also pray that God’s comfort, the comfort of a mother for her child, will unquestionably and securely surround you.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve with you. Although we are apart, it is and has been a joy making music with and for you. May Christ continue to enable and enhance our worship together!

Much love and many blessings, Nicholas Hopkins

I send best wishes to all of my friends at CLC for a Merry Christmas and a Happy (healthy) New Year. I look forward to the time that we can worship together again. Hopefully the new vaccines will make that possible for us before too long. I know that we all miss each other and long for the fellowship that we enjoy at our church. We have sent out quite a few prayer shawls this year and I send a big thank you to all those who are keeping our cabinet full of shawls to be distributed to anyone who has a need for that comfort. There is more yarn in the cabinet for the taking. Stop in and pick some up if you would like. Let me know if you need to get into the building at a time outside office hours.

A special “Merry Christmas” to all “my” bell choir ringers. I miss all of you and hope you are doing well. We had such an abrupt ending to our season last year and I’m glad you are continuing to ring during this time of pandemic. Blessings to you all this holiday season!

Marilyn Burgard



It’s Christmastime! I think that most of you will agree that this has been an incredibly strange and difficult year. The terms “Coronavirus” and “social distancing” were not part of our vocabulary prior to 2020, and it’s my heartfelt prayer that it won’t be too long before they disappear and I will have the opportunity to meet you and share the peace of Christ face to face. But while it has truly been a difficult year, we still rejoice in the miracle of Jesus’ birth. And whatever blessings and challenges this year has brought to you, it’s my hope that God’s amazing love, given to us through a baby in a manger, will bless you this Christmas and into the New Year.

Blessings, Diane deVries
Director, Handbell Choirs

Merry Christmas to my CLC Family!

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. + Luke 2:10-11

Christmas will soon be here and I pray you, your family, and your loved ones are all safe and well as we approach December 25, 2020. This year will be different and memorable. For the first time I can remember, we will not be gathering together for worship on Christmas Eve in the Sanctuary. I will deeply miss this time with you. However, we can build on our memories of years gone by as well as by the many Christmas traditions our families hold dear. My family will still have traditional elements from years gone by including my grandmother’s “please pass the pink stuff” and the fun “Santa’s footprints” on the carpet between the fireplace to the Christmas tree. Mary and Joseph will finish their journey around our living room to reach the Nativity Set and the baby Jesus will be placed in our manger. As he will be five years old next month, I wonder how our son James will remember this year. To that end, I wish us all good memories for Christmas this year.

From CLC, there will be two Christmas Eve services this year. One will be a more traditional service as we held in past years at 7:00pm and 10:00pm. The other is a shorter service hoping to better connect with families with young ones. Then, on Sunday, December 27, at 10:00am we will hold our Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols which will be a festive time to enjoy our favorite hymns.

You are all truly a blessing to me and to my family. May God Bless us all this Christmas Season!

Yours in Christ, Pastor Justin

Contact Information for Christ Lutheran Church Office and Staff

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Bookkeeper: Hal Overly

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Share Your CLC Event Pictures:

(please include a brief description – group, date, etc.)

Email: pictures@clcwyoming.org