

Words of Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor: We gather in the name of the Father, † the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(Silence for a time of self-reflection)

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Gracious God,

All: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. May the Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

All: Amen. Thanks be to God.

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God,

All: the battle of good and evil rages within and around us, and our ancient foe tempts us with his deceits and empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your Word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

Reading Genesis 9:8-17

⁸Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, ⁹“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. ¹¹I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.”

¹²God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: ¹³I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, ¹⁵I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” ¹⁷God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

L: Word of God, Word of Life

All: Thanks be to God

Please rise in body or spirit.

Gospel Reading Mark 1:9-15

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the first chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.” ¹²And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

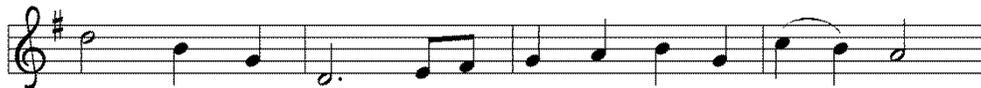
Please be seated.

You are invited to hum or sing along softly with the music.

Hymn of the Day

“O God of Light”

ELW# 507



1 O God of light, your word, a lamp un - fail - ing,
 2 From days of old, through blind and will - ful a - ges,
 3 Un - dimmed by time, those words are still re - veal - ing,
 4 To all the world your sum - mons you are send - ing,



shall pierce the dark - ness of our earth - bound way
 though we re - belled, you gent - ly sought a - gain,
 to sin - ful hearts, your jus - tice and your grace;
 through all the earth, to ev - 'ry land and race,



and show your grace, your plan for us un - veil - ing,
 and spoke through saints, a - pos - tles, proph - ets, sa - ges,
 and quest - ing spir - its, long - ing for your heal - ing,
 that myr - iad tongues, in one great an - them blend - ing,



and guide our foot - steps to the per - fect day.
 who wrote with ea - ger or re - luc - tant pen.
 see your com - pas - sion in the Sav - ior's face.
 may praise and cel - e - brate your gift of grace.

Text: Sarah E. Taylor, 1883–1954, alt.
 Music: ATKINSON, H. Barrie Cabena, b. 1933
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The Apostles' Creed

All: I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of God's People

The congregation responds to the prayer petitions with, "hear our prayer."

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Christ.

Your offering can be received this day at the door in the offering plate, through the mail, or dropped off at the church office.

You can also do a one-time or recurring gift via the website.

Thank you for your generosity.

Please rise in body or spirit.

Offertory Prayer

P: Let us pray: God of all creation,

All: all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

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, forever and ever. Amen

Invitation to Holy Communion

P: We come unto Christ in the bread we share. We come unto Christ in the cup we share.

Please be seated.

Please take this reflection time to share the Lord's Supper at home with these words.

"The body of Christ, given for you."

"The blood of Christ, shed for you."

A blessing may be given to those who do not yet commune, perhaps using these words:

"God bless you, beloved child of God." or

"Jesus loves you."

Distribution Hymn

"Healer of our Every Ill"

ELW# 612

Refrain

Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,

give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.

1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your
 2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is
 3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,
 4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your

Refrain

peace and glad - ness; Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.
 still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.
 ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide.
 way of heal - ing; Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL, Marty Haugen
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Blessing after Communion

P: Now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

All: Amen.

Prayer after Communion

P: Let us pray: God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and the Lord.

All: Amen.

SENDING

God sends us in mission to the world

Blessing

P: God bless you ☩ that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.

All: Amen.

Sending Words

L: Go in peace. Share the good news.

All: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

* * * * *

Worship Assistants, Thank You For Serving This Sunday, February 21, 2021
Musician: Michelle Wood **Assisting Minister:** Kit Mackenzie
PA Operator: Craig Aamodt, Jonathan Olson
Video Camera Operator: Gary Morken, Bev Isaackson
Ushers: Mike Lee (captain); Parry Bossuyt, Chuck Broberg, Josh Fragodt, Tom Hinz,
 Kit Mackenzie, Jeff Varpness, Lisa Varpness
Altar Care: Anne Isaackson, Nancy Kremin
Count Offering: Dave Neuman, Tracy Sterner

The Annual Meeting of Christ Lutheran Church Congregation is scheduled for TODAY, Sunday, February 21, 2021, following Worship. You are invited to attend.

If you would like an Annual Report Book mailed to your home address, please contact Rhoda at the church office:

Phone 507 423 5100

E-mail christlutheran@ christcotton.com

See your email for the Zoom Link to join us virtually.



LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.” Mark 12:30.

What a powerful commandment given to us by Jesus. That we need to love God with our whole being. But continue with verse 31. *“The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.”* That’s a real tall order, isn’t it? That we love our neighbor as much as we love ourselves. God loves us so that we may love others.

One way to show our love for our neighbor is to support ELCA World Hunger. Included in the bulletin today is an envelope to make your gift to this program that helps feed our neighbors near and far.

Thank you for your care and concern.

We are grateful for your ongoing financial offerings that can be mailed to the church (P.O. Box 166, Cottonwood, MN 56229) or given online with the following link:
<https://www.osvonlinegiving.com/1600>

March 8: Deadline to Order Easter Flowers

If you would like to purchase flowers to beautify the sanctuary on Easter, **please use the order form which is available at church and which has been emailed.** The choices are: Calla Lily, Kalanchoe, Begonia (\$25 each).

PLEASE NOTE: Due to allergy issues, Easter lilies will not be available.

Please turn in payment with the form. Give to Barb Crouse, or place in the offering plate. **Check is payable to CLC Altar Committee, with Easter Flowers written in the memo line.**

IF QUESTIONS, CALL Barb Crouse 507 423 624 .

You are welcome to make a designation for printing in the bulletin, if you wish, such as in memory of a loved one (or, in thanksgiving of/in honor of, etc.).

Worship Options:

In House Worship – Sundays at 9:30 a.m. -and- Wednesdays in Lent at 7 p.m.

Online YouTube link – Sunday Worship posted on the church’s Facebook page Sunday afternoon and emailed on Mondays.

Wednesday Lenten Worship emailed on Thursdays.

Links can also be found on the church website: www.christcottonwood.org

You can also catch us on the Local Cable Channel 180:

Sundays at 10:45 a.m. and Mondays at 4:30 p.m.

Wednesdays in Lent at 8:00 p.m.

Bulletins are available via email or the church website at www.christcottonwood.org

Facebook -	Christ Lutheran Church Cottonwood MN
Website -	www.christcottonwood.org
Mailing -	P.O. Box 166; Cottonwood, MN 56229
Office Phone -	507.423.5100
Pastor Janel Kuester -	Cell: 651.726.4003; pstrjanel@gmail.com

Prayer Requests

The Apostle Paul reminds us in Philippians 4:6-7 to, “*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*” Your prayers are a gift to those requesting them, and encouragement for one another as we experience challenges, sorrows, or thanksgivings of any kind.

Health Concerns, as well as Others In Our Hearts and On Our Minds:

Sandra Arnold (family of Ione Olson)

Landyn Berends	Brooks Baker	Norm Evers	Grant Johnson
Bob Kaeter	Marian Kalass	Teri Kemmer	Cole Louwagie
Jori Ella Morrison	Gretchen Noon	Bobby Olson	Ione Olson
Lloyd Powell	Savannah Rausch	Gary Vossen	

All those dealing with illness, addictions, depression, cancer, unemployment, under-employment, and any challenges in their lives.

Independent Living/Assisted Living/Care Center Residents/Homebound:

Arvilla Berg, Darleen Cole, Michele Engholm, Elaine Elston, Irene Evers, Norm Evers, Marge Gigstad, Janet Gniffke, Julie Jaeger, Marietta Jarcho, Betty Lovsness, Lila Mauland, Laurie Pickthorn, Donna Neuharth, Bobby Olson, Alnora Pederson, Margaret Rewerts

Families of our Congregation: *Tanner and Haleigh Alm, Sutton
Terrance Alm and Heather Meier, Colt, Scarlett (Letti)*

Sympathy to Family and Friends: death of *Bob Bode*, husband of Char Bode

Workers in Other Countries, Missionaries, and Local Congregation Missions.

*Cottonwood Food Pantry
ELCA World Hunger Appeal
Kitchen Table Food Shelf (United Community Action, Marshall)*