

February/March
2021



Christ Lutheran Church – Cottonwood, Minnesota

Find us on Facebook:
Christ Lutheran Church Cottonwood MN
Website: www.christcottonwood.org
Office Phone/Voice Mail 507-423-5100
E-mail: christlutheran@christcotton.com [Rhoda]
pstrjanel@gmail.com [Pastor Janel]



“Worship With Us” Options:

- In person on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m.
- You can also catch us on the Local Cable Channel 180 on Sundays at 10:45 a.m. and Mondays at 4:30 p.m.
- Each week, the service is converted to a YouTube link. Check the church’s Facebook page at “Christ Lutheran Church Cottonwood, MN” on Sunday afternoons or on the website at www.christcottonwood.org for the weekly worship link. You could also follow our YouTube channel at “Christ Lutheran Church, Cottonwood, MN”

Worship Schedule:

February 14 – 9:30 a.m. Transfiguration of Our Lord Sunday
February 17 – 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday with Holy Communion
February 21 – 9:30 a.m. First Sunday in Lent with Holy Communion
February 24 – 7:00 p.m. Lent 1 Worship “Dwelling in Transformation”
February 28 – 9:30 a.m. Second Sunday in Lent

March 3 – 7:00 p.m. Lent 2 Worship “Dwelling in Wonder”
March 7 – 9:30 a.m. Third Sunday in Lent with Holy Communion
March 10 – 7:00 p.m. Lent 3 Worship “Dwelling in Sight”
March 14 – 9:30 a.m. Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 17 – 7:00 p.m. Lent 4 Worship “Dwelling in Doubt”
March 21 – 9:30 a.m. Fifth Sunday in Lent with Holy Communion
March 24 – 7:00 p.m. Lent 5 Worship “Dwelling in Revelation”
March 28 – 9:30 a.m. Palm Sunday

April 1 – 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday with Holy Communion
April 2 – 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Tenebrae Service
April 4 – 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Easter Sunday Services
April 11 – 9:30 a.m. Second Sunday After Easter



“Dwelling in Discipleship”

This past year of all years has left us in the state of “dwelling.” Dwelling as in living closer to the cuff in our place we call home. Dwelling as in residing tucked away from those outside your home. Dwelling as in something exists around you and is noticeable. Yes, indeed, dwelling has been prominent in our lives. This Lenten season, we will use the theme “*Dwelling in Discipleship*” to guide us.

Disciple is a broad word that means a student. In the case of being a disciple it is being a student or follower of Christ. As we all never finish the school of learning about faith, Lent is a perfect time to enmesh ourselves in “*Dwelling in Discipleship*.”

Spiritual practices is one way to being “*Dwelling in Discipleship*.” “Dwelling in the Word” is an ancient practice of reading scripture. It is a way of listening for how God speaks to us, with an open heart and a willingness to be shaped by what God might want to say to you through the reading. This spiritual practice is easy and you are encouraged each week to try the practice reading the same piece of scripture daily for several days in a row.

As you read the same scripture for each week, use these three questions to guide your listening:

1. What caught your attention?
2. What question would you want to ask?
3. What are you hearing in this text (where might the Spirit be nudging you)?

The process of dwelling in a particular piece of scripture is as follows:

- Before reading, pray that God would speak to you
 - Read the piece of scripture, slowly and out loud
 - Allow for silence to begin to think about the three questions above
 - Read the piece of scripture again
 - Allow for silence
- (continued on next page)*

- If someone else is available, you can spend some time sharing what you heard with each other. Remember you can use technology – FaceTime, Skype, phone call, Zoom, etc.
- Repeat this process with the same piece of scripture each day that week – you might be surprised what “new” things are opened up to you and what God is trying to say to you.

Week of February 18-24

The Paralytic: Dwelling in Transformation
Read Luke 5:17-26

Week of February 25-March 3

Peter’s Mother-in-Law: Dwelling in Wonder
Read Luke 4:38-41

Week of March 4-10

Mary Magdalene: Dwelling in Sight
Read John 20:1-18

Week of March 11-17

Thomas: Dwelling in Doubt
Read John 20:19-29

Week of March 18-24

Martha: Dwelling in Revelation
Read John 11:1-27

Week of March 25-31

Lazarus: Dwelling in New Life
Read John 11:28-44

May your Lenten preparations be filled with new insights!

Pastor Janel





Looking Ahead to Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday this year is February 17th.

It is the day that marks the beginning of the Season of Lent, and once again we will gather in worship and celebrate Holy Communion as we begin the journey to the cross with Jesus. As we enter into the Lenten period of 40 days, our worship also includes a time when we mark with ashes the sign of the cross on one's forehead, a ritual which has been part of Ash Wednesday worship over all the centuries. This visible sign not only identifies us as followers of Christ Jesus, but also reminds us of our deep need for God's love and mercy in our lives. The worship services on Ash Wednesday with Holy Communion is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. Ashes this year will be placed COVID friendly.

Ashes to Go

However, if you would prefer to receive ashes and Holy Communion outside of the in-person evening worship service, Pastor Janel will be offering the following times listed below or by appointment to receive ashes in the drive-through area in the front of the church.

- **10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**
- **2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**
- **Calling the church office 507-423-5100**

Wednesdays in Lent

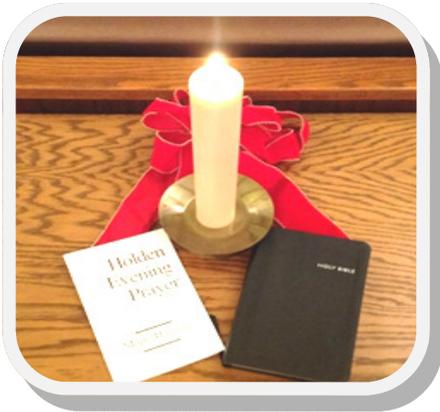


Monologues for Lent

Each week during the Lenten Wednesday Evening worship services, we will hear from different Biblical characters. Could you possibly be one of our monologue readers?

The monologues are already written, just a willing heart and a little practice and you would be ready to go. Contact Pastor Janel if one of these characters would be of interest:

- Feb 24 – The Paralytic Man
- Mar 3 – Peter’s Mother in Law
- Mar 10 – Mary Magdalene
- Mar 17 – Thomas, the Disciple
- Mar 24 – Martha



Holden Evening Prayer Service

Also, each week, we will be using the Holden Evening Prayer service and we could use some singers who are willing to song lead us and some musicians who would be willing to play along with our pianist.

Contact Pastor Janel if you could lead the congregation either in song or in playing along with Krishana Dempcy as your partner.



Annual Meeting Notice

The Annual Meeting of Christ Lutheran Church Congregation will be held on Sunday, February 21, 2021, following our 9:30 Sunday morning worship service (backup date is February 28).

A live zoom option will be available and a link will be made available closer to the meeting date.

The Nominating Committee is still prayerfully seeking two positions on the ballot:

- Treasurer
- Deacon



Copies of the Annual Report Book for Year 2020 are available at church:

1. In Front Entry
2. At Rear of Sanctuary
3. In Office Hallway across from Pastor Janel's Office

If you would like a copy mailed to your home address, please contact Rhoda at the church office:

Phone 507 423 5100
E-mail christlutheran@ christcotton.com

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the making of this historical piece in our congregational life.

Mission Possible and Sunday School

Lent-in-a-Bag

For March and April, please look for resources coming soon on the Lent theme of “Dwelling in Discipleship.” Resources will be emailed but can also be requested to be printed and picked up at the church.

Confirmation Mentoring During Lent

During Lent this year, the confirmation students are requested to meet six times between Ash Wednesday, February 17, and Good Friday, April 2, to discuss the assigned Lenten Devotional book. The Lenten Devotional books will be mailed to both Confirmation Students and the Confirmation Mentors. The topic this year is the Passion Story of Jesus in the Gospel of Mark.

Journal Instructions

For each week during Lent, you will find in this journal booklet a short reading from the Passion story in the Gospel of Mark. Sometime during the week *before* meeting with your mentor, **(1) READ THE VERSES** that are identified.

After you read the verses, **(2) WRITE DOWN YOUR ANSWER** to the first question. This question is meant for you, the student to answer - but if you want your mentors’ help, that’s okay. Discussion will be shared when you meet with your mentor.

The second question is for you to ask your mentor when you meet. **(3) WRITE DOWN THEIR ANSWER** to the question.

First Communion Instruction



For children who are ready to receive the Lord's Supper, Pastor Janel will be offering First Communion instruction classes in the coming weeks. Families will be soon notified.

The students who have been prepared will receive their First Communion on Maundy Thursday, April 1, at the 7 pm service. This is the night when we remember how Jesus sat with his disciples at the Last Supper.

Remembering members in our Christ Lutheran Family of Faith

Welcome to our Christ Lutheran
faith community

Samantha "Sam" Judovsky

Sympathy to Families and Friends

*Private Family Memorial Service held for
Robert Duane Bode (husband of Char Bode)
on February 13*

Received into God's Kingdom of Grace through the
Sacrament of Holy Baptism:

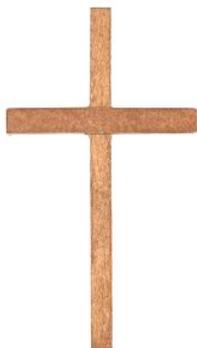
*Audrey Marie Busack, daughter of Samantha
Judovsky and Zakary Busack, on February 14*



As we look forward to Easter worship, we know things will not be normal. **We will be offering two services – one at 8:00 a.m. and a second one at 10:00 a.m.** Of course, online and cable station options will also be available. We ask that you are prepared for what might be different this year:

- First, in order to help keep the number of people below our Preparedness Plan's number, we will be offering two shortened service opportunities instead of one. **In order to do this, you will be asked to call or email the church to reserve your time of attendance.** Once we reach our maximum number, you will be offered another option including virtual worship.
- Second, we know that singing is one of the ways that the spread of the virus reaches farther in an enclosed space. This year, we will have limited music and encourage you to hum or sing softly.
- Third, we will be offering the sacrament of Holy Communion. **If you would like to receive communion outside of worship, please contact the church office to schedule a private opportunity.**
- Lastly, no matter how we celebrate the resurrection of Christ, we know that God reaches beyond the walls of our church building.

We pray that all remain safe and healthy during these days leading us through Lent and preparing our hearts in anticipation and hope for Easter.



- Who We Are -

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Mission Identity

The people of Christ Lutheran Church are daily

† called into God's new creation,

† empowered by the Spirit, and

† sent to show the Good News of Jesus Christ

bringing welcome, forgiveness, healing, renewal

and hope to our neighbors here and in all the world

Staff:

Janel L. Kuester, Pastor, 507 423 5100; cell 651 726 4003
pstrjanel@gmail.com

Rhoda Schmidt, Administrative Assistant, 507-423-5100
cell 507-829-1426 christlutheran@christcotton.com

Melanie Olson, Accounting Assistant, 507-530-2064
Melanie.olsen@usbank.com

Jon & Jeannette Myrvik, Custodians,
(Jon) 507-828-2401 (Jeannette) 828-2407
jeannette.myrvik@cygnusdelivers.com jjmyrvik@charter.net

Find us on Facebook:

Christ Lutheran Church Cottonwood MN

Our Website: www.christcottonwood.org

Mailing Address: PO Box 166, Cottonwood, MN 56229

Phones — Office: 507-423-5100 Kitchen: 423-5118