

**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 worthy of our calling as witnesses to the Good News of Jesus Christ in God's world.  
(Ephesians 4:1)**

**Web Site:** [clcmd.org](http://clcmd.org) or [christlutheranofgermantown.org](http://christlutheranofgermantown.org)

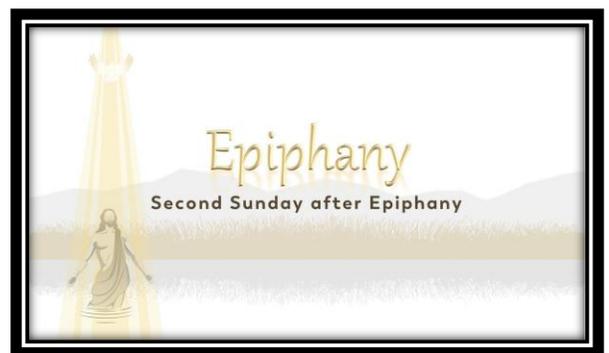
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**Pastor Emeritus:** Irvin Stapf  
**Pastor:** Vacant  
**Vicar:** Chris Clarke  
**Liturgist:** Bob Petersen



***Second Sunday after the Epiphany***  
***January 18, 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:                      Built On A Rock The Church Doth Stand                      Hymn #151***

*Built on a rock the church doth stand, Even when steeples are falling;  
Crumbled have spires in every land, Bells still are chiming and calling;  
Calling the young and old to rest, Calling the souls of men distressed, Longing for life everlasting.*

*Not in our temples made with hands God, the almighty is dwelling;  
High in the heavens his temple stands, All earthly temples excelling;  
Yet he who dwells in heaven above Deigns to abide with us in love, Making our bodies his temple.*

*We are God's house of living stones, Built for his own habitation;  
He fills our hearts, his humble thrones, Granting us life and salvation;  
Were two or three to seek his face, He in their midst would show his grace, Blessings upon them  
bestowing.*

*Yet in this house, an earthly frame, Jesus the children is blessing;  
Hither we come to praise his Name, Faith in our Saviour confessing;  
Jesus to us his Spirit sent, Making with us his covenant, Granting his children the kingdom.*

*Through all the passing years, O Lord, Grant that, when church bells are ringing,  
Many may come to hear God's word Where he this promise is bringing:  
I know mine own, mine own know me, Ye not the world, my face shall see; My peace I leave with you,  
amen.*

**\*\*\*Psalm: Psalm 40:1-11 (read responsively)**

**Liturgist:** <sup>1</sup> I waited patiently for the Lord;

**People:** he turned to me and heard my cry.

**Liturgist:** <sup>2</sup> He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire;

**People:** he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.

**Liturgist:** <sup>3</sup> He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God.

**People:** Many will see and fear and put their trust in the Lord.

**Liturgist:** <sup>4</sup> Blessed is the man who makes the Lord his trust,

**People:** who does not look to the proud, to those who turn aside to false gods.

**Liturgist:** <sup>5</sup> Many, O Lord my God, are the wonders you have done.

**People:** The things you planned for us no one can recount to you; were I to speak and tell of them, they would be too many to declare.

**Liturgist:** <sup>6</sup> Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but my ears you have pierced;

**People:** burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not require.

**Liturgist:** <sup>7</sup> Then I said, "Here I am, I have come—

**People:** it is written about me in the scroll.

**Liturgist:** <sup>8</sup> I desire to do your will, O my God;

**People:** your law is within my heart."

**Liturgist:** <sup>9</sup> I proclaim righteousness in the great assembly;

**People:** I do not seal my lips, as you know, O Lord.

**Liturgist:** <sup>10</sup> I do not hide your righteousness in my heart; I speak of your faithfulness and salvation.

**People:** I do not conceal your love and your truth from the great assembly.

**Liturgist:** <sup>11</sup> Do not withhold your mercy from me, O Lord;

**People:** may your love and your truth always protect me.

**\*\*\*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:** Almighty and everlasting God, who dost govern all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of thy people, and grant us thy peace all the days of our life; 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 Lesson: Isaiah 49:1-7**

<sup>1</sup> Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar. The LORD called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name. <sup>2</sup> He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away. <sup>3</sup> And he said to me, “You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.” <sup>4</sup> But I said, “I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my right is with the LORD, and my recompense with my God.”

<sup>5</sup> And now the LORD says, he who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him; and that Israel might be gathered to him—for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD, and my God has become my strength—<sup>6</sup> he says: “It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.” <sup>7</sup> Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation, the servant of rulers: “Kings shall see and arise; princes, and they shall prostrate themselves; because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

**Liturgist:** This is the word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9**

<sup>1</sup> Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes,

<sup>2</sup> To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

<sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup> I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup> that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—<sup>6</sup> even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—<sup>7</sup> so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>8</sup> who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup> God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Liturgist:** This is the word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God

**The Alleluia: (sung)** *Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia*

**Pastor:** Lift up your hearts and hear the Holy Gospel as it is recorded in the first chapter of Saint John, beginning with the twenty-ninth verse.

**\*\*\*People (sung)** *Glory be to thee, O Lord*

**Gospel Lesson: John 1:29-42a**

<sup>29</sup> The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! <sup>30</sup> This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.’ <sup>31</sup> I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.” <sup>32</sup> And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup> I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ <sup>34</sup> And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.”

<sup>35</sup> The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, <sup>36</sup> and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God!” <sup>37</sup> The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. <sup>38</sup> Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, “What are you seeking?” And they said to him, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are you staying?” <sup>39</sup> He said to them, “Come and you will see.” So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. <sup>40</sup> One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. <sup>41</sup> He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means Christ). <sup>42</sup> He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon the son of John.

**Pastor:** This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

*Children's Sermon:*

*Vicar Chris Clarke*

# CHILDREN'S SERMON



*Standing on the promises of Christ my King,  
Thro' eternal ages let His praises ring;  
Glory in the highest, I will shout and sing,  
Standing on the promises of God. (Chorus)*

***Standing on the promises of God.***

***Standing, standing, Standing on the promises of God my Saviour;  
Standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.***

*Standing on the promises that cannot fail,  
When the bowling storms of doubt and fear assail,  
By the living word of God I shall prevail.  
Standing on the promises of God. (Chorus)*

*Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord,  
Bound to Him eternally by love's strong cord,  
Overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword,  
Standing on the promises of God. (Chorus)*

*Standing on the promises I cannot fall,  
Listening every moment to the Spirit's call,  
Resting in my Saviour, as my all in all,  
Standing on the promises of God. (Chorus)*

***A People Called By God***



***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 Nicene Creed:**

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church; I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### **\*\*\*The General Prayer: (after each petition)**

**Pastor:** Lord in your mercy.

**People:** Hear our prayer.

### **\*\*\*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 Preface: (responses are sung)**

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** *And with thy spirit.*

**Pastor:** Lift up your hearts.

**People:** *We lift them up unto the Lord.*

**Pastor:** Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

**People:** *It is meet and right so to do.*

### **\*\*\*Proper Preface:**

**Pastor:** It is truly meet, right, and salutary, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God: And now do we praise thee, that thou didst send unto us thine only-begotten Son, and that in him, being found in fashion as a man, thou didst reveal the fullness of thy glory. Therefore, with Angels, and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying:

### **\*\*\*The Sanctus: (sung)**

*Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heaven and earth are full of thy glory; Hosanna in the highest. Blesséd is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.*

### **\*\*\*The Consecration:**

**Pastor:** Our Lord Jesus Christ, in the night in which he was betrayed, took bread; and, when he had given thanks, he brake it and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you; this do in remembrance of me."

After the same manner also, he took the cup, when he had supped and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of it; this cup is the New Testament in my blood, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins; this do, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me."

**\*\*\*The Eucharistic Prayer:**

**Pastor:** Remembering, therefore, his salutary precept, his life-giving Passion and Death, his glorious Resurrection and Ascension and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to thee, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought, but as we are able; and we beseech thee mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving, and with thy Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, thy servants, and these thine own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who partake thereof may be filled with heavenly benediction and grace, and, receiving the remission of sins, be sanctified in soul and body, and have our portion with all thy saints. And unto thee, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in thy holy Church, now and forever. Amen.

**\*\*\*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 Agnus Dei: (sung)**

*O Christ, thou Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.*

*O Christ, thou Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.*

*O Christ, thou Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace. Amen.*

**The Communion** (If you are baptized, believe in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, have honestly confessed your sins, and believe that under the bread and wine Christ gives us his true body and blood, you are welcome to come to communion.)

**\*\*\*Post Communion Blessing:**

**Pastor:** The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ and His precious Blood strengthen and preserve you unto eternal life.

**People: *Nunc Dimittis* (Simeon's Prayer): (sung) Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation which thou has prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel. 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.**

**Pastor:** O give thanks to the Lord for He is good.

**People: (sung) And His mercy endureth forever.**

**\*\*\*Closing Prayer: (responses are sung)**

**Pastor:** Let us pray. We give thanks to thee, Almighty God, that thou hast refreshed us with this thy salutary gift; and we beseech thee, of thy mercy, to strengthen us through the same gift, in faith toward thee and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, thy dear Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**People: Amen.**

**Pastor:** The Peace of the Lord be with you.

**People: And with thy spirit.**

**Pastor:** Bless we the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**\*\*\*The Benediction:**

**Pastor:** 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) The threefold Amen**

*A-men, A-men, A----men.*

**\*\*\*Closing Hymn:**

***In Thee is Gladness***

*In thee is gladness Amid all sadness, Jesus, sunshine of my heart.  
By thee are given The gifts of heaven, Thou the true redeemer art.  
Our souls thou wakest; Our bonds thou breakest Who trusts thee surely  
Has built securely And stands forever: Alleluia!  
Our hearts are pining To see thy shining, Dying or living,  
To thee are cleaving; Naught us can sever: Alleluia!*

*If he is ours, We fear no powers, Not of earth or sin or death.  
He sees and blesses In worst distresses; He can change them with a breath.  
Where-fore the story Tell of his glory With heart and voices;  
All heav'n rejoices In him forever: Alleluia!  
We shout for gladness, Triumph o'er sadness, Love him and praise him  
And still shall raise him Glad hymns forever: Alleluia!*

**\*\*\*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

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: Pastor Thomas Jahr, Federal Prison Supervising Chaplain, Atlanta, GA

For our missionary work: Blanket Ministry

For those being persecuted for their faith in Christ

For the congregations of our Germantown/Clarksburg/Damascus community: Cedar Brook Community 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: Tuesday – 1:30 PM at Joe Flesch's home.**
- **Women's Bible Study: Wednesday – 10 AM at the Mt. Airy Fire Hall in the Lion's Club Room.**
- **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](http://clcmd.org) or [christlutheranofgermantown.org](http://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 are collecting pasta and sauce for Damascus HELP during the month of January. Any type of pasta, and any sauce that goes with pasta. There is a collection bin in the Narthex.**
- **Please mark your calendars: Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>, after church.**
- **Church Council will meet after our service today.**