

Christ Connection

Empowered by God's love and following in the ways of Jesus Christ, we LIVE, GROW and SHARE AS Disciples of Christ.

For the Week Beginning February 2, 2020—The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

During the season after Epiphany in the church, we hear stories about how Jesus and the prophets reveal God. These stories encourage us to notice places in the world that reveal God now. At some times and in

some places, it can be very difficult for us to discover or even imagine what God might be doing. At other times - as in the reading we hear today - modern prophets reveal what God is up to. But how do we discern which voices are prophetic and which are simply wrong?

As Lutheran Christians, we understand that prophets share two gifts - that of the law (which convicts us of our shortcomings) and that of the gospel (the grace that frees us from ourselves and releases us to live as Jesus lived). Prophetic voices reveal that God is always more than we currently think. More gracious, more merciful, more loving, more inclusive, more caring - and also, more just, more fair, more demanding, and more illuminating (all too often of our shortcomings). We use this lens to discern which are the prophetic voices in our lives, the church, and the world. These voices carry authority as we make decisions, live, and minister in the world.

However, because prophets bring both the gifts of law and gospel, their words are necessarily hard to hear. Sometimes they lead us to a truth we'd rather not recognize. Sometimes they convict us about hurtful behaviors and words. Sometimes they call us to a painful reckoning with ourselves or others.

Listening for, noticing, and responding to prophetic voices is a deeply spiritual exercise - and it is hard work! It often makes us feel uncomfortable, discontented, frustrated, fragile, and guilty. However, it is only once we fully face the reality of our situation that we can also fully experience the grace that allows us to live as Jesus leads us to live. God gives us the grace to know that when we accept the truth, the truth will set us free. It's like watching a scary movie and knowing that the 'good guy' will win in the end. We can face the unknown and that which scares us because we already know how the story ends.

As we consider how our life together will be different in the coming weeks, I encourage you to seek the prophetic voices in our midst. Seek those who bring hard truths alongside gospel grace. Notice whether you might have prophetic insights. Notice these insights in each other and the wider community. This task is not easy - but it is deeply holy. And we do not do it alone. By the grace of God, we are siblings in Christ, seeking to reveal God's work in the world... and maybe even share in it.

Pastor Erin

Sunday Worship

8:30 Contemporary

10:15 Traditional

Sunday Faith Formation

Bible Study

7:30AM—Fireside Room

Christ Lutheran Staff

Rev. Erin Clausen, Pastor
Rachel Krohn, Pastoral Assistant
Jon Ball, Dir. Contemporary Worship
Bonnie Bucholz, Traditional Music Director
Jo Chiko, Handbell Choir Director
Rev. Craig Felde, Local Missionary
Kristina Dickens
Children & Family Ministries Director
Nancy Woodruff,
Dir. of Communications
Mara Leonard—Organist

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Christ Lutheran Church of
Clarendon Hills



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ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Next Sunday
Worship at 9:00AM
Meeting at 10:00AM
Held in the Sanctuary

UPCOMING EVENTS



Sunday, February 2

Bible Study 7:30AM—Fireside Room
Contemporary Worship 8:30AM—Sanctuary
Sunday School 8:40AM—Growing Grove
Middle School Ministries 9:30AM—Youth Room
Traditional Worship 10:15AM—Sanctuary
Bowling 1:00 PM—Suburbanite (note time change)

Monday, February 3

ROMEO's 8:00AM—Blueberry Hill
Food For Thought 7:00PM—Satchwell Home

Tuesday, February 4

Dartball 7:00PM—Darrien
Handbell Practice 7:30PM—Choir Loft

Wednesday, February 5

Christian IMPACT Meeting 4:00PM—Fireside Room
Scout Meeting 6:00PM—Fellowship Hall
Choir Rehearsal 7:30PM—Choir Loft

Thursday, February 6

Scout Pack Meeting 6:00PM—Fellowship Hall
AA 8:00PM—Fireside Room

Friday, February 7

Quilting Ministry 9:00AM—Fellowship Hall
Knitting Ministry 10:00AM—Study Lounge
JULIETS 12:00PM—Blueberry Hill

Saturday, February 8

Bible Study 9:30AM—Fireside Room

Sunday, February 9

Bible Study 8:00AM—Fireside Room
Worship 9:00AM—Sanctuary
Annual Congregational Meeting 10:00AM—Sanctuary
Pub Church 12:30PM—Tracy's Tavern

Monday, February 10

Worship Team 7:00PM—Fireside Room

Tuesday, February 11

Dartball 7:00PM—Home
Handbell Practice 7:30PM—Choir Loft

Wednesday, February 12

Worship Band Practice 6:00PM—Sanctuary
Scout Meeting 6:00PM—Fellowship Hall
Choir Practice 7:30PM—Sanctuary

Thursday, February 13

Scout Pack Meeting 6:00PM—Fellowship Hall
AA 8:00PM—Fireside Room

Friday, February 14

Quilting Ministry 9:00AM—Fellowship Hall

Saturday, February 15

Bible Study 9:30AM—Fireside Room
Cook-DuPage Beekeepers 6:30PM—Fellowship Hall

Sunday School

We understand that families may run a little behind in the morning to

get to church, We welcome all children to Sunday School no matter what time they are able to join us. So if you are running behind, come on in! We want to make sure that you arrive safely to church!

Nursery

The nursery will be open and staffed with volunteers during the Contemporary Worship Service, 8:30 a.m. to 9:30

a.m. The nursery is always open for parents whose little ones may need a break. All children must be supervised by an adult for safety reasons if they need to take a break in the nursery.

Youth Group Meeting Sunday, February 16th 10:15 a.m.

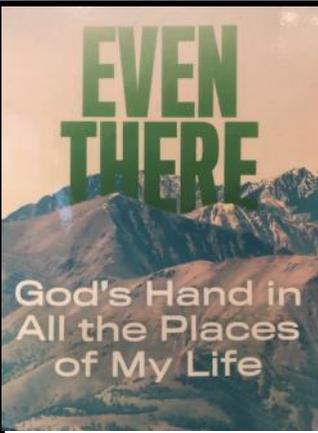


All youth in 5th-12th grades are invited to join us for Youth Group! We will be

meeting to discuss and sign up for tasks for the Mardi Gras Spaghetti Lunch, discuss how the youth will be participating in Sunday Worship Services beginning March 1st, 2020, and the children will begin the youth group 2020 Bible Study.



Let the CLC Youth Group kids cook and serve you lunch on **Sunday, February 23rd!** Sponsored by the CLC Youth Group. Tickets are only \$5.00. Proceeds will go toward future youth events. Tickets will be sold on February 9th and 16th by Youth Group members.



Leap of Faith Women's Retreat February 28-29

God's Hand in All the Places of My Life

Sign up to join hostess Marie Freidag and the "Food For Thought" group at a weekend retreat. You can stay for

the weekend or just come for the day (Saturday, February 29th 9:30AM-4:30PM)

The retreat will be held at 24-120 Wagon Wheel Drive, Lanark, Illinois. It's about a 2-1/2 hour drive.

Please RSVP to Marie so that she can prepare. Each participant will be expected to help contribute to the meals and activities, and will receive a book signed by the author at the end of the retreat.

**Marie Freidag: mariepchef@aol.com
630-712-7645**

There is a sign-up in the Welcome Center for those who would like to participate. Those attending should plan to bring cold weather gear, as there will be outdoor activities.

There is a sample of the book that the group will be looking at in the Welcome Center. Take a peek and see what you think!



The Food for Thought Women's Ministry Group will meet on Monday, February 3rd at the Satchwell home at 7:00 p.m. The activity for the evening will be planning the Winter Retreat. All women of CLC are warmly invited and encouraged to attend.



We are asking for everyone's participation in a survey to

help determine how we can best care for everyone as we make transitions to our worship schedule. There are paper copies in the Welcome Center as well.

Please make sure to sign your survey in order for the feedback to count!

<http://bit.ly/worshipsurvey2>

GALLING ALL BAKERS ...



Bakers are needed to help provide desserts for the February 23rd **Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser** sponsored by the CLC Youth Group. If you would like to help out, please use your **Connection Card** to let us know.



The Scouts will be on hand this morning to pre-sell tickets for their pancake breakfast, coming up on **March 7th**. Tickets are only \$5.00 for all-you-can-eat pancakes, sausage, coffee and juice served up by the Scouts themselves. Plus, there will be chances to win great prizes in the raffle. This is the biggest fundraiser of the year for our Scouts; let's support them!