

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 March 15, 2020—Third Sunday in Lent



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

This week (Tuesday) the church - and society - will commemorate St. Patrick, a 5th century missionary to and bishop in Ireland. On behalf of the Roman Catholic church, he preached the gospel of Jesus, and is generally said to have brought Christianity to Ireland.

In the United States, many people associate green with St. Patrick's day. This may be because the color used in Ireland to represent Catholicism is green. In Ireland, Catholics wear green on St. Patrick's Day. In contrast, protestants wear orange. As Lutherans, were we celebrating today in Ireland, we would probably be wearing orange.

Our celebrations - whether corned beef and cabbage, green beer, or watching the Chicago river turn green - are intended to bring us together as communities. The faith that St. Patrick brought to Ireland calls us to love God and neighbor, and to live out of Christ in every moment. Still, the choice to wear green or orange might be a reminder that throughout the world, Christians are not united. Christians around the world still argue and fight, in spite of our common dedication to a God whose love comes to us through Christ.

This Tuesday will also be primary election day in our area. As Lutheran Christians, we believe that God calls us to live under the authority of the government *and also* to hold that government accountable to the standards to which our faith leads us. Every time you vote, you make a statement of faith. The values, ethics, and moral convictions which your faith has given you ought to guide your decisions in the voting booth. This also reminds us that throughout our country, Christians are not united. Christians around the nation come to vastly different conclusions about how our values, ethics, and moral convictions lead us to vote. Yet we remain dedicated to a God who calls us to love our neighbors and even our enemies.

During this season of Lent, Christians around the world are invited to examine ourselves and our lives. We are invited to consider in what ways we are living out our Christian faith and commitment, and to recommit to those. We are also invited to consider where we are not living out our Christian faith, with an invitation to alter our thoughts and behavior to more closely match the love of God through Christ.

So consider this week an invitation. Have fun with friends and family. Enjoy your siblings in Christ. Celebrate with gladness. Vote as God leads you to vote. And also, remember who you are in Christ. Be aware of the ways you live out your faith... and those ways you don't. Watch how you love your neighbor... and the times and places you don't. Notice where you find Christ...and where you don't.

This week, carry this blessing, an excerpt from the famous prayer called St. Patrick's Breastplate. May you notice Christ in all you do, in every place where you are, and in everyone you meet.

Pastor Erin

Sunday Worship

9:00 a.m. Contemporary

Sunday Faith Formation

Bible Study
8:00AM — 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
Kristina Dickens
Children & Family Ministries Director
Mara Leonard—Organist

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Christ Lutheran Church of
Clarendon Hills



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There will be a Church Rummage Sale Planning Meeting today at 10:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room. If you are unable to attend and interested, please email Steven Dickens at sdickens2015@gmail.com. The rummage sale is set for Saturday, April 4th, 2020 from 9am-2pm.



YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY PARENT VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED. We are inviting the parents of all of our families to sign up and help during the set-up process for this year's Annual Rummage Sale. A portion of the money earned this year will be helping to update the Nursery with new blinds/blackout curtains, and a baby monitor (for volunteers to be able to experience the worship service). Our older volunteers would love to mentor new volunteers on how the Rummage Sale is run. Please sign up in the Welcome Center this Sunday or use your **Connection Card**.

Don't forget to order your Easter Lilies! Once again these beautiful plants will come from Vern Goers' Greenhouse in Hinsdale. They will grace our worship space on Easter morning, and then you may take them home to plant in your yard or give away to someone special. Checks should be made out to Christ Lutheran Church; please use the envelopes provided in the Welcome Center and add your name to the list. Each plant is \$13.50.



Serving in Worship

Presiding/Preaching: Pastor Erin Clausen
Chancel Guild: Wendy Sanders, Jane McDonald
Communion Bread: Debra Joslin, Avery Hancock
Sound: Glen Orton **Projection:** Rachel Krohn
Sunday School: Kathy Bartosz, Steven Dickens, Kristina Dickens
Nursery: Sarah Kraner
After Service Treats: Matt Ramirez and Dan Cramer



Sunday, March 15

Bible Study 8:00AM—Fireside Room
Traditional Worship 9:00AM—Sanctuary
Sunday School 9:00—Growing Grove
Rummage Sale Planning Meeting 10:00AM—Fireside
Middle School Ministries 10:00AM—Youth Room
Lenten Study Group 10:15AM—Fellowship Hall
Pub Church 12:30PM Fremont Grill

Monday, March 16

Church Council 6:30PM—Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, March 17

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

Wednesday, March 18

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

Thursday, March 19

Webelos Crossover 7:00PM—Sanctuary
Scout Meeting 7:00PM—Fellowship Hall
AA 8:00PM—Fireside Room

Friday, March 20

Quilting Ministry 9:00AM—Fellowship Hall
Knitting Ministry 10:00AM—Study Lounge

Saturday, March 21

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

Sunday, March 22

Bible Study 8:00AM—Fireside Room
Contemporary Worship 9:00AM—Sanctuary
Sunday School 9:00—Growing Grove
Middle School Ministries 10:00AM—Youth Room
Lenten Study Group 10:15AM—Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, March 24

Handbell Practice 7:30PM—Choir Loft

Wednesday, March 25

Choir Practice 7:00PM—Choir Loft

Thursday, March 26

Scout Meeting 7:00PM—Fellowship Hall
AA 8:00PM—Fireside Room

Friday, March 27

Quilting Ministry 9:00AM—Fellowship Hall

Saturday, March 28

Bible Study 9:30AM—Fireside Room

NURSERY

The Nursery is open from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. and is staffed with volun-

teers who have passed a background check. 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.



Sunday School has a new time slot. Please drop your child(ren) off in the Growing Grove BEFORE service begins. Sunday School is from 9:00 a.m. to 10:20 a.m. All children will be brought to the Sanctuary during worship for communion or a blessing.

Youth Group Acolyte/Easter Service Training Sunday, March 22 at 10:00AM

Children 6th through 12th grade will join Deacon Steven Dickens immediately following worship for a 20-minute training to be an acolyte (lighting altar candles). The youth will be serving twice a month on Traditional Worship Sundays. It is expected that all children in Confirmation Class attend the training. We invite 9th–12th graders who would like to participate in services to join as well. We will have two additional training sessions scheduled before March 29th when the youth will be serving for the first time. Following the training, Confirmation students are welcome to join Pastor Erin in the Bible Study in the fellowship hall.



It's that time of year! The Easter Egg Hunt will be at 10:30AM on Easter morning after our Traditional Service. Please help us out with donations of hard candies for the eggs (no chocolate; it's too messy). You may drop the candy off in the box that is in the church office.

Spiritual Growth News You Can Use!



The children 6th grade through 12th grade have begun training for serving in Traditional Worship Services with Deacon Steven Dickens. The youth will be serving in worship on Traditional Worship Sundays. All children in confirmation class and the children who have been confirmed attend the trainings and serve in worship. We invite the 9th through 12th graders to join the training that would like to participate in services as well. The youth will be training to acolyte and serve juice during communion. The children will begin serving in worship on Sunday, March 29th in Traditional Worship Services. This training will prepare children to serve in worship as adults and understand the Lutheran Liturgical Practices. The children are living, growing, and sharing in their discipleship of Christ.



We invite you to Holy Week at Christ Lutheran Church! The experience is out of

this world with so many emotions, feelings, and charisma. It's an experience you do not want to miss! Please join us on Thursday, April 9th for a Traditional Worship Service on Maundy Thursday at 7:00 p.m. This is a service that commemorates the Last Supper and the practice of Holy Communion. The service concludes with the stripping of the altar. Please join us on Friday, April 10th for Good Friday at 7:00 p.m. This service is an experiential service where you experience five different stations: the healing station, the broken pottery station, the writing of sins on coffee filters, the cross station, and lighting of the candles station. Holy Week concludes on Easter Sunday at 9:00 a.m.! The children will be participating in the Easter Traditional Worship Service in the processional and the recessional. The Children's Choir will sing. The musical accompaniment during this service is amazing! All children ages 0-5th grade are invited to the Easter Egg Hunt at 10:30 a.m. on the front lawn!



Don't forget to pick up a piggy bank for our Lenten Mission project. We are going to fill them with our spare change over the next few weeks (through Easter Sunday). Once we see how much we have raised, our Sunday

School children will be deciding what to purchase.

Oxen and Plow (\$1,000) A pair of oxen helps create record-breaking harvests, provides fertilizer and gives families the gift of time

Cow (\$500) A cow's milk, meat, fertilizer and calves can quickly provide financial stability.

Fish Farm (\$250) Can provide a lifetime of meals to a community.

Goat (\$50) Fresh milk is very nutritious and can be used to make yogurt and cheese to sell.

Pig (\$30) Within months after birth piglets grow to weigh over 200 pounds; providing a big payoff at the market.

Honeybees (\$20) Bees pollinate plants and boost crop growth-helping the wider community. Soaps and candles can be made from their wax and sold at the local market

Chicks (\$10) Chicks begin laying eggs at just a few months old, offering nutritious, protein-rich meals for hungry families.

Flower Garden Coming this Spring



The Community Garden will be blooming with flowers this summer! Youth & Family Ministries is excited to announce that we will be planting a flower garden this May! We are

planting flowers that will attract bees, providing nectar and pollen and creating shelter. This garden will create new habitat for bees, which is important, as their natural habitats become less and less abundant. Watch for information on planting day which will be **Saturday, May 16th**.

We would like to give a shout out to **Trish Giron** for her faithful leadership of the community garden over the last several years.