



Christ Lutheran Community Church
A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

March 1, 2026
Second Sunday in Lent

The Rev. Dr. James Thomas Preaching and Presiding

Gathering Hymn: ELW 618 - Guide Me Ever Great Redeemer

1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me
wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me

with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es

feed me now and ev - er - more, ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
shield me with your might - y arm, might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.
I will raise for - ev - er - more, ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

FIRST READING: - Genesis 12:1-4a

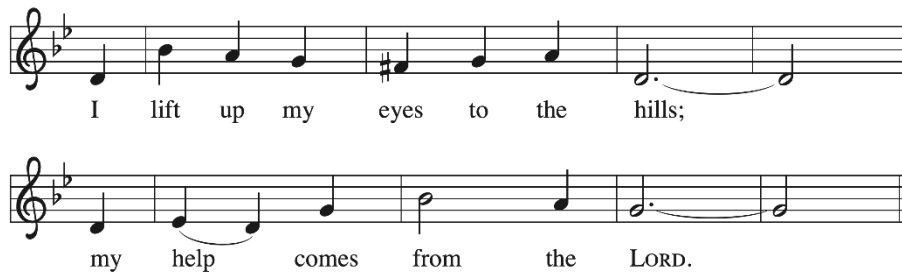
A reading from Genesis

¹The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

^{4a} So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 121



Psalm 121:1-2
Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress.
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- ¹ I lift up my eyes | to the hills;
from where is my | help to come?
- ² **My help comes | from the LORD,**
the maker of heav- | en and earth.
- ³ The LORD will not let your | foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you | fall asleep.
- ⁴ **Behold, the keep- | er of Israel**
will neither slum- | ber nor sleep; R
- ⁵ the LORD watches | over you;
the LORD is your shade at | your right hand;
- ⁶ **the sun will not strike | you by day,**
nor the | moon by night.
- ⁷ The LORD will preserve you | from all evil
and will | keep your life.
- ⁸ **The LORD will watch over your going out and your | coming in,**
from this time forth for- | evermore. R

SECOND READING: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

A reading from Romans

¹ What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? ² For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. ³ For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness." ⁴ Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. ⁵ But to one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

¹³ For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵ For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law, neither is there transgression.

¹⁶ For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace, so that it may be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (who is the father of all of us, ¹⁷ as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"), in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person." ³ Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵ Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' ⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁹ Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰ Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

¹¹ "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

16 “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

17 “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day: ELW 633 - We've Come This Far by Faith

Refrain - All

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The score is divided into four systems, each with a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: "We've come this far by faith, lean-ing on the Lord; trust-ing in his ho-ly word, he's nev-er failed us yet. Oh, can't turn a-round, we've come this far by faith. We've come this far by faith." The piano accompaniment includes several triplet figures in the left hand, particularly in the third and fourth systems. The piece concludes with a final chord in the piano part.

We've come this far by faith, lean-ing on the Lord;
trust-ing in his ho-ly word, he's nev-er failed us yet.
Oh, can't turn a-round, we've come this
far by faith. We've come this far by faith.

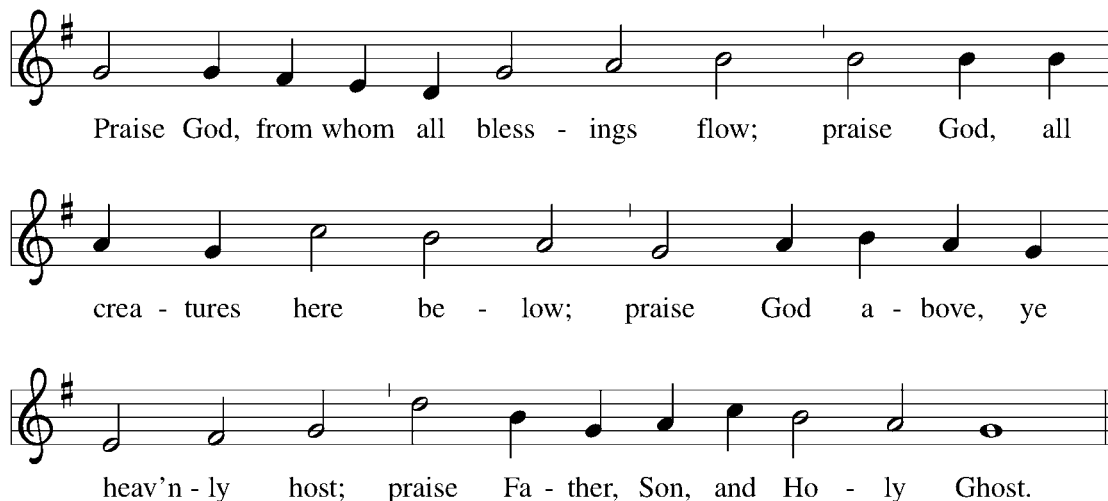
1 Just remember
the good things God has done,
things that seemed impossible;
oh, praise him for the vict'ries he has won.

2 Don't be discouraged
with trouble in your life;
he'll bear your burdens,
and move all the discord and strife.

Text: Albert A. Goodson, 1883-1947
Music: THIS FAR BY FAITH, Albert A. Goodson
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Offertory Hymn: ELW 885 - Praise God

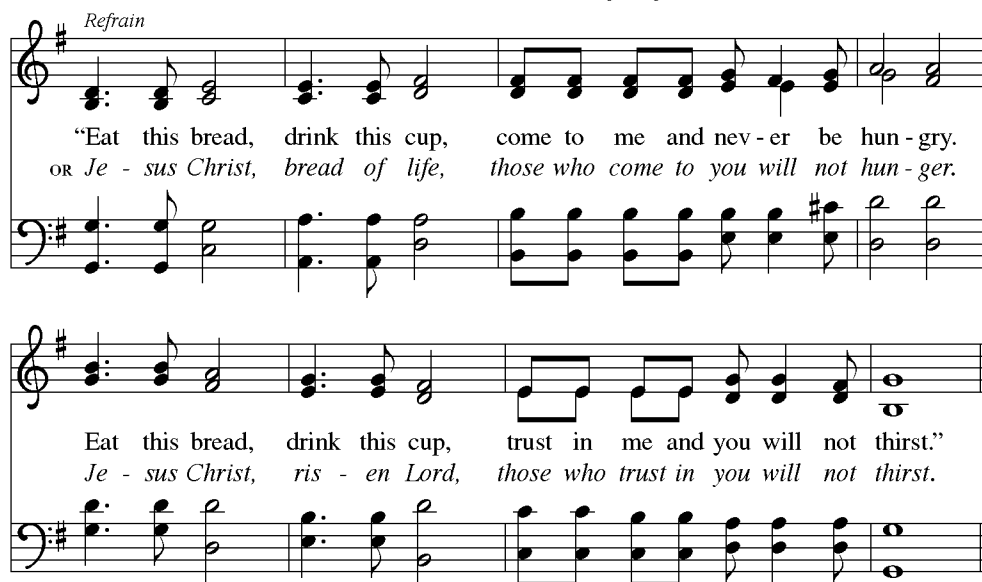


Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711, alt.
Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

Post-Communion Hymn: ELW 472 - Eat This Bread

Eat This Bread *Jesus Christ, Bread of Life*



Refrain

“Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev - er be hun - gry.
OR Je - sus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hun - ger.

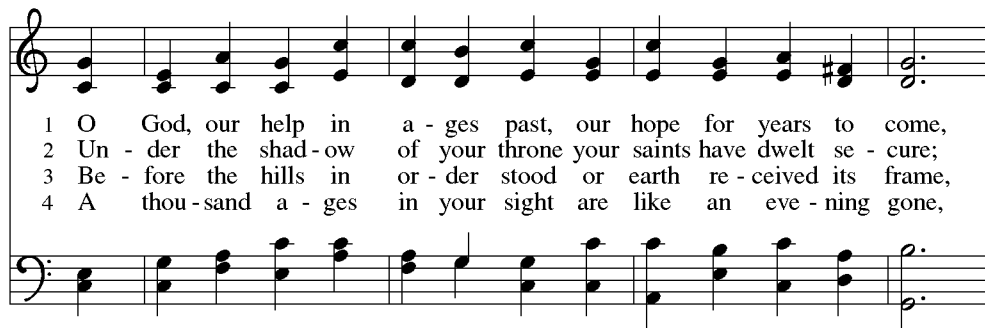
Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.”
Je - sus Christ, ris - en Lord, those who trust in you will not thirst.

Text: Taizé Community
Music: BERTHIER, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994
Text and music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com.
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Sending Hymn: ELW 632 - O God Our Help in Ages Past

O God, Our Help in Ages Past



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
we fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.
Music: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1678-1727

CLCC ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP LEADERS AND ASSISTANTS

Preaching & Presiding: The Rev. Dr. James Thomas

Organist: Sal Scinto

Altar Guild: Penny Algeo, Carolyn Phipps

Reader: Lisa Ellis

Prayer Leader:

2nd Communion Asst:

Ushers: Victoria Foster-Lee

Zoom Host: Susan Pursch

A/V: Dante Hayward

Hospitality:

EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Tuesday, March 3

10:30 am – Communication Team

7:00 pm – Finance Committee

Wednesday, March 4

9:30 am – Senior Boxes

Friday, March 6

9:30 am – Fresh for All

Sunday, March 8

8:30 and 10:30 am – Worship

11:30 am - Congregational Meeting

12:00 noon – Church Council

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

The flowers on the altar are given by Penny and Tom Algeo in memory of Megan Algeo on the 5th anniversary of her passing.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

All in particular need, especially Nettie, Penny, Tom, Daryl, Penny, Marian, Claude, Gracie, Krystal, Pat, Ben, Jennifer, Barbara, Marie Josie, Esther, Braelynn, Maria, Miles, Peggy, and Dianne.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:

Nathan Moore is celebrating a birthday this week.

FOOD MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

Emergency Food Closet: Ongoing as emergencies arise

Fresh For All: Fridays, 9:30-10:30AM, weather-dependent

Senior Boxes: Wed, March 4 - 10-12 am

Feast Incarnate: Tuesday, March 10 - 4:30 pm

CLCC Food Closet: Thurs, March 12 -1:30 – 4:30pm

CHRIST LUTHERAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

The Rev. Dr. James Thomas, Interim Pastor

7240 Walnut St., Upper Darby, PA 19082

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