

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 23, 2025 | 9:00 AM



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

"We Live in Christ and share God's love with all people."

PO BOX 845 | 5904 VISTA DR. | FERNDALE, WA
360-384-1422 | clcferndale.org

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Welcome to worship at Christ Lutheran Church! For all attending, we invite you to sign in on the friendship pad in your pew.

We gratefully acknowledge that we gather on the ancestral homelands of the Lummi Nation of the Coast Salish language group who have stewarded this land since time immemorial, and we commit to the ongoing care of our shared land and relationships with its indigenous peoples.

For our younger friends - there are busy bags and worship buddies available in the back of the church. You are welcome to bring your child to the Pray Ground (accessed outside the sanctuary entrance) for any portion of the service, where you can listen to the service through a speaker.

Hearing assist units and large print bulletins are available as you enter the sanctuary. Please see an usher for assistance with these or any part of the worship service.

*We encourage you to participate in worship at your comfort level. **The congregation reads the bold print and** stands as they are able.*

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23 | PARTICIPATING IN OUR CHURCH

Presiding: Pr. Leigh DeVries

Greeter: Carol Gahm

Ushers: Brian & Mary An O'Hara

Communion Assistant: Linda Anderson

Youth Assistant: Isaac Springer

Reader: Carol Soderlund

Prayers of Intercession: George Holmes

Team: Matt Springer, Jenise Clausen, Anna Malpica, Erin Beebe

Cantor: Erin Beebe

Piano/Organ: Don Clausen

Violin: Joanne Donnellan

Flute: Nancy Tupper

Altar Guild: Janet Wilhoite

Livestream Technician: Audra McLain

Soundboard Technician: Sam McGrady

Liturgical Setting: God's Endless Love - Bonnie Drewes

STAFF PARTICIPATING IN OUR CHURCH

Rev. Leigh DeVries, lead pastor: pastor@clcferndale.org

Rev. Liza Okan, preschool director: preschooldirector@clcferndale.org

Don Clausen, music director: musicdirector@clcferndale.org

Shay Andersen, parish administrator : parishadmin@clcferndale.org

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Lectionary 7, Year C
 Sunday – February 23, 2025 – 9:00am

GATHERING

PRELUDE

"Come Into His Presence"
 "Change My Heart, O God"

CLC TEAM
 CLC TEAM

WELCOME

PR. LEIGH DEVRIES

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

PR. LEIGH

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
 our creator,
 our protector,
 our wellspring of life.

Amen.

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Merciful God,

**you speak blessing and compassion
 into the world.**

**Forgive us for the ways we act
 with judgment, cruelty, or
 indifference.**

**We ignore the needs of our
 neighbors;
 we resist your call to oppose
 injustice;
 we give in to scarcity and fear;
 we assume the worst about one
 another.**

**Cleanse us from our faults
 and release us from their grasp.**

Show us your lovingkindness.

**Restore our hearts and repair your
 world, that we may live in Christ's
 ways.**

Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance:

"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.
 I have called you by name. You are mine."

In † Christ, you are forgiven.

In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy,
 live anew as beloved children of God.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

"God, When Human Bonds Are Broken"

ELW# 603

GREETING

PR. LEIGH

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE

♩ = 96

REFRAIN

Fine

L Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son Ky - ri - e.
 C Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Lord have mer - cy.

1. For
2. For
3. Up-

VERSE 1

to refrain

L Peace O Lord, to you we pray. We lift our hearts to you this day.
 C Ky-ri-e e - le-i-son. Ky - ri - e.

VERSE 2

to refrain

L this bro-ken world we cry to you. May your grace be shown in all we do.
 C Ky-ri-e e - le-i-son. Ky - ri - e.

VERSE 3

to refrain

L on your cre-a - tion pour your love, that your king dom come here as in heav'n a bove
 C Ky ri-e e - le-i-son. Ky - ri - e.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

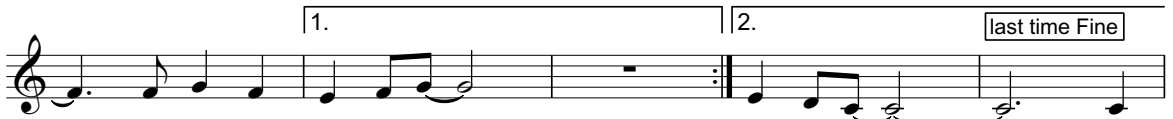
♩ = 144



REFRAIN



Praise God in the tem - ple___ in the high - est hea - vens. Praise God's high - ty deeds



1. ___ and nob - le maj - es - ty. ___

2. maj - es - ty. ___

last time Fine

1. Praise
2. Sing



God with the trum - pet___ blast!___ Praise God with the lute and___ harp!
praise to___ God cre - a - tor; to Christ,___ who sets us___ free,



___ Praise God with tim - brel and dance, with string and pipes!___ Praise
___ and to the spir - it of life who makes us one. ___ Praise



God with crash - ing cym - bals, with loud and ring - ing cym - bals!
God with sing - ing voi - ces, with strong and faith - ful voi - ces!



All that is a - live___ praise the Lord!___

To Refrain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

PR. LEIGH

O Lord Jesus,

make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

You may be seated.

THE FIRST READING: GENESIS 45:3-11, 15

³Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’” ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: PSALM 37:1-11, 39-40

¹Do not be provoked by evildoers;
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

**²For they shall soon wither like the grass,
and like the green grass fade away.**

³Put your trust in the Lord and do good;
dwell in the land and find safe pasture.

**⁴Take delight in the Lord,
who shall give you your heart’s desire.**

⁵Commit your way to the Lord; put your trust in the Lord,
and see what God will do.

**⁶The Lord will make your vindication as clear as the light
and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.**

⁷Be still before the Lord and wait patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

**⁸Refrain from anger, leave rage alone;
do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.**

⁹For evildoers shall be cut off,
but those who hope in the Lord shall possess the land.

**¹⁰In a little while the wicked shall be no more;
even if you search out their place, they will not be there.**

¹¹But the lowly shall possess the land;
they will delight in abundance of peace.

**³⁹But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you, O Lord;
you are their stronghold in time of trouble.**

⁴⁰You, O Lord, will help them and rescue them;
you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you they seek refuge.

THE SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 15:35-38, 42-50

³⁵But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" ³⁶Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴²So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

⁵⁰What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia, Lord to whom shall we go?



You have the words of ev - er - last - ing life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

THE GOSPEL: LUKE 6:27-38

PR. LEIGH

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁷“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³²“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

The word of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

You may be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PR. LEIGH

THE MESSAGE

PR. LEIGH

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Build A Longer Table"



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
 2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
 3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
 4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
 where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
 Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
 Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
 For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
 When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
 So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
 Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
 Christ tears down our fenc - es: all are wel - come here.
 None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son,
 our Lord,**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the Virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried;
 he descended to the dead².**

**On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the
 Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living
 and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy catholic Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Surprising God, you call us to love our enemies and to show kindness in the face of cruelty. Let our actions be a shining witness of your overwhelming grace for all. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

As animals hibernate and fields lay dormant, let them be a reminder that life and faith are not static but always changing and growing. May we, with all creation, trust that the ending of one thing promises life in a new way. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for leaders and policymakers who work to reduce violence in our nations, cities, and towns. Give your wisdom and discernment amid heated arguments and differing viewpoints. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the victims of abuse and violence. Provide safe shelter and new beginnings to those experiencing domestic violence and dangerous situations. Enfold with love all who seek your healing care (especially). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Empower our faith communities to be signs of your gracious love. Bless the local ministries of parish nursing and caregiving, that they will be a voice for those in need in our communities (other ministries may be named). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for the enduring witness of those who have died before us (especially Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna). May their lives in you provide a witness of your everlasting grace. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen.**

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

PR. LEIGH

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

You may be seated.

CALL FOR OFFERING

Stewardship is a response of gratitude and thanksgiving for what God has done for us. You are invited to respond to God's gifts with your own financial gifts through the offering. You may use offering envelopes (extras found at the end of the hymnal rack) or give using any of these ways:

- Mail checks to the CLC P.O. Box 845 or send a check through your bank's Bill Pay service. Please be sure to add "Attn: Financial Secretary" to the envelope;
- Give through the Church Center App (use QR code to download the app);
- Give through Church Center online: christ-lutheran-church-ferndale.churchcenter.com; and;
- Text any dollar amount to 84321.



STAND IN BODY OR SPIRIT

THE OFFERING IS PRESENTED AND THE TABLE IS PREPARED

Musical notation for the hymn "The Offering is Presented and the Table is Prepared". The music is in 3/4 time and G major. The lyrics are: "With all we have we wait for God, our hearts rejoice with love in the Lord. We give to God, our strength and shield, we trust your holy name, Love us, Lord, we wait for you."

OFFERING PRAYER

PR. LEIGH

God of grace,
**your love reaches to the heavens,
 and your abundance to the depths of the seas.**
Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.
**Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,
 now and always.**
Amen.

INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNION

PR. LEIGH

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

PR. LEIGH

Musical score for 'The Great Thanksgiving' in C major, 4/4 time. The score consists of three staves of music with lyrics underneath. The first staff has chords C, F, Gm, C, C/E, and Dm. The second staff has chords Gm, C, Am, and Dm. The third staff has chords Eb, Bb, C, Bb, Bb/C, and F. The lyrics are: P:The Lord be with you C:And al - so with you. P:Lift up your hearts. C:We lift them to the Lord. P:Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God. C:It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
 that we should at all times and in all places
 give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
 through our Savior Jesus Christ:
 who on this day overcame death and the grave,
 and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
 And so, with all the choirs of angels,
 with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
 we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Musical score for the 'Hosanna' section in D major, 4/4 time. The score consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, God of end - less love, heav'rand an - gels sing your glo - ry, prais - es from a - bove. Ho - san - na in the high - est! We join in the song, you are ho - ly, you are here with us now.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 In great love you sent to us Jesus, your
 Son,
 who reached out to heal the sick and
 suffering,
 who preached good news to the poor,
 and who, on the cross, opened his arms
 to all.

On the night of his arrest,
 our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave
 thanks;
 broke it, and gave it to his disciples,
 saying:
 Take and eat; this is my body, given for
 you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup,

gave thanks,
 and gave it for all to drink, saying:
 This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
 shed for you and for all people for the
 forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.
 Remembering, therefore, Jesus' death,
 resurrection, and ascension, we await
 Christ's coming in glory. Pour out upon us
 the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
 and unite the wills of all who share this
 heavenly food,
 the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our
 Lord:

to who, with you and the Holy Spirit, be
 all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

PR. LEIGH

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us in the language of our hearts.

1983 Version

**Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.**
Give us today our daily bread.
**Forgive us our sins,
 as we forgive those
 who sin against us.**
**Save us from the time of trial
 and deliver us from evil.**
**For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours,
 now and forever.**
Amen.

1892 Version

**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.

INVITATION TO TABLE

PR. LEIGH

The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

All who desire a renewed relationship with Jesus, who is present in the bread and wine, are welcome to participate in Holy Communion. Children of any age, with the consent of a parent or guardian, are welcome to commune, or may come forward to receive a blessing instead. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. If you have any allergies or sensitivities to gluten, wheat, yeast, dairy, soy, nut, or corn, please ask for the wafer alternative, as they are made in a facility that is free of these allergens.

If you prefer to take communion at your seat, please notify an usher to have it brought to you. Communion education is available for those who have not been baptized or who desire instruction; please speak with the pastor after worship.

COMMUNION HYMN: Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you
take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - y on us. Lamb of God, you
take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace. Grant us peace, Lamb of God.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

CLC TEAM

"Holy Ground"
"Cares Chorus"

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

PR. LEIGH

Nourishing God,

at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink.

Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS, BIRTH/BATHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES

PR. LEIGH

*Happy birth/birthday to you, happy anniversary to you,
may the Lord bless and keep you another year through.*

BLESSING

PR. LEIGH

The Spirit of the triune God ☩ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN**"Spirit, Open My Heart"***Refrain*

Spir-it, o - pen my heart to the joy and pain of



liv-ing. As you love may I love, in re - ceiv - ing



and in giv - ing. Spir - it, o - pen my heart.



1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of



kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and
goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and
friend and neigh - bor. As I live from day to



fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.
deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.
day, love will be my fin - est la - bor.

DISMISSAL

PR. LEIGH

Go in peace. Live in hope.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Upcoming Dates at CLC (*see more information in eNews!)

- 2/23:** Coffee Hour after worship, Fellowship Hall;
Bible 101 Community Ed with Pr. Leigh: 10:30am, Fireside Room
- 2/24:** Quilting, Fellowship Hall, 9am-12pm
Pub Church, Downtime Taps, 5:30pm
- 2/26:** Walk & Talk, 9:00am carpool from CLC or 9:30 @ Semiahmoo*
- 3/1:** Alternate Humane Society Training, Fireside Room, 10:30am
- 3/2:** Coffee Hour after worship, Fellowship Hall;
No Community Ed
- 3/5:** Ash Wednesday
12:00pm Service @ United Church of Ferndale
7:00pm Service, CLC Sanctuary
- 3/9:** Coffee Hour after worship, Fellowship Hall;
Lament in Lent: Spiritual Practice with Pr. Leigh & the Wises,
Community Ed, 10:30am, Fireside Room

Please hold these people in prayer:

- The family and friends Rosemary Esser, Claydene Lederer;
- Rachel, Mary K., Scott, Paula, Marina, Ruthanne, Nancy, Sean, Mike, Teri, Jeremiah, Ken, Pat, Carol, Mary Ann, Janet, Sarah, Sara, Caitlin, Jacob, Christine, Ashley, Amore, Amber, Darryl, Victoria, John, Rosemary, Angel, Eric, Kim, Lucia, Michele, Ken, Tony, Amanda, Rick, Jim, Kevin, Lindsey, Kent, Leslie, Rob, Paul, Aimee, Kennedy Sue, Luna, Jo Ann, Shane, Rich, Pam, Connor, Lynn, Ken, Kathy, Nathan, Carolyn, Howard;
- all who are homebound, or in assisted living facilities;
- those who travel;
- Brandon, Ron, Gage, Melissa, Robert, Scott, Thomas, Rick, and all serving in the military;
- those struggling with addictions and illnesses affecting the mind and spirit;
- those struggling with deteriorating health.

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