

ASH WEDNESDAY

MARCH 5, 2025 | 7:00 PM



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.*

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5 | PARTICIPATING IN OUR CHURCH

Presiding: Pr. Leigh DeVries

Greeter: Jenni Herold

Ushers: Kurt & Linda Anderson

Communion Assistant: Linda Luke

Reader: Jenni Herold

Prayers of Intercession: Dave Schlack

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

ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday – March 5, 2025 – 7:00pm

GATHERING

WELCOME

PR. LEIGH DeVRIES

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.

GATHERING HYMN

"Our Father, We Have Wandered"

ELW# 606

PRAYER OF THE DAY

PR. LEIGH

Almighty and ever-living God,

**you hate nothing you have made,
and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent.**

**Create in us new and honest hearts,
so that, truly repenting of our sins,
we may receive from you, the God of all mercy,
full pardon and forgiveness 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.**

You may be seated.

WORD

THE FIRST READING

JOEL 2:1-2, 12-17

'Blow the trumpet in Zion;
sound the alarm on my holy mountain!
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,
for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near—

²a day of darkness and gloom,
 a day of clouds and thick darkness!
 Like blackness spread upon the mountains,
 a great and powerful army comes;
 their like has never been from of old,
 nor will be again after them
 in ages to come.

¹²Yet even now, says the LORD,
 return to me with all your heart,
 with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
¹³rend your hearts and not your clothing.

Return to the LORD your God,
 for he is gracious and merciful,
 slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love,
 and relenting from punishment.

¹⁴Who knows whether he will not turn and relent
 and leave a blessing behind him,
 a grain offering and a drink offering
 for the LORD your God?

¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion;
 consecrate a fast;
 call a solemn assembly;
¹⁶gather the people.

Consecrate the congregation;
 assemble the aged;
 gather the children,
 even infants at the breast.

Let the bridegroom leave his room
 and the bride her canopy.

¹⁷Between the vestibule and the altar,
 let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep.
 Let them say, "Spare your people, O LORD,
 and do not make your heritage a mockery,
 a byword among the nations.

Why should it be said among the peoples,
 'Where is their God?'"

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING

2 CORINTHIANS 5:20^b-6:10

²⁰We entreat you on behalf of Christ: be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake God made the one who knew no sin to be sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

¹ As we work together with him, we entreat you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ² For he says,

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.”

Look, now is the acceptable time; look, now is the day of salvation! ³ We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴ but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: in great endurance, afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵ beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶ in purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷ truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸ in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors and yet are true, ⁹ as unknown and yet are well known, as dying and look—we are alive, as punished and yet not killed, ¹⁰ as sorrowful yet always rejoicing, as poor yet making many rich, as having nothing and yet possessing everything.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and mer - ci - ful,



slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

THE GOSPEL

MATTHEW 6:1-6, 16-21

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁴"Beware of practicing your righteousness before others in order to be seen by them, for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

²⁴"So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴so that your alms may be done in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

⁵⁴"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁶"And whenever you fast, do not look somber, like the hypocrites, for they mark their faces to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷ But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁹"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.*You may be seated.***THE MESSAGE**

PR. LEIGH

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Savior, When in Dust to You"

ELW# 601

INVITATION TO LENT

Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed.

We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy. We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent—self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love—strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

CONFESSION OF SIN

PR. LEIGH

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most holy and merciful God,

**we confess to you and to one another,
and before the whole company of heaven,
that we have sinned by our fault,
by our own fault,
by our own most grievous fault,
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, and mind, and strength.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

Have mercy on us, O God.

We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

PR. LEIGH

All are invited to participate in the imposition of ashes. Following the direction of the ushers, line up in the center aisle. Present either your hand or forehead to Pastor Leigh, who will then give you the sign of the cross in ashes.

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth.

May these ashes be a sign of our mortality and penitence, reminding us that only by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are we given eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,

that we may show forth your glory in the world.

By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,

bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

God of our journeys, we pray for the church as the season of Lent begins. Guide your people in spiritual practices and preparation for baptism. Strengthen communities of faith in discipleship and witness for the sake of the gospel. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

God of creation, we pray for the earth. As you once brought forth life from the dust, breathe healing and renewal into all places where ecosystems are stretched and strained. Nurture organic cycles of life, death, and rebirth. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

God of the nations, we pray for an end to wars and occupations that reduce communities to ash. Turn leaders away from fearful decision-making, and lead all people into the justice and compassion of your reign. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

God of the suffering, we pray for all who live with any pain (especially). Comfort people living with chronic or terminal illnesses, addictions, or anxiety. Grant that all who dwell in the dust of grief may know your presence there. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

God of community, we pray for those who accompany the dying: for first responders, health care and hospice workers, chaplains, and those who facilitate burials of the dead. Sustain them as they serve their neighbors in life and death with dignity and care. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of the cross, we give thanks for those who have completed their lives on earth and have returned to you. Strengthen us with the promise that within the ashes of death are the seeds of resurrection life. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

Amen.

MEAL

GIFT OF MUSIC

"What Wondrous Love Is This"

CLC CHOIR

ARR. D. CLAUSEN

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.*



OFFERING PRAYER

PR. LEIGH

God our provider,

you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNION

PR. LEIGH

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

PR. LEIGH

May the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

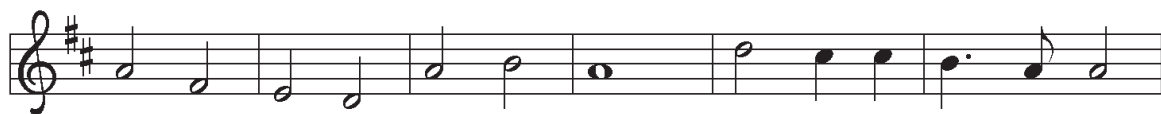
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
You are most holy,
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink
from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now
and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

You may be seated.

COMMUNION BY INTINCTION

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. Gluten free bread will be offered to then dip into the cup of wine or juice.

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.

SENDING

STAND IN BODY OR SPIRIT

BLESSING

PR. LEIGH

God our tender parent,
God the crucified one,
God the reconciling Spirit,
‡ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"The Glory of these 40 days"

ELW #320

You are dismissed in silence.

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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