

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church

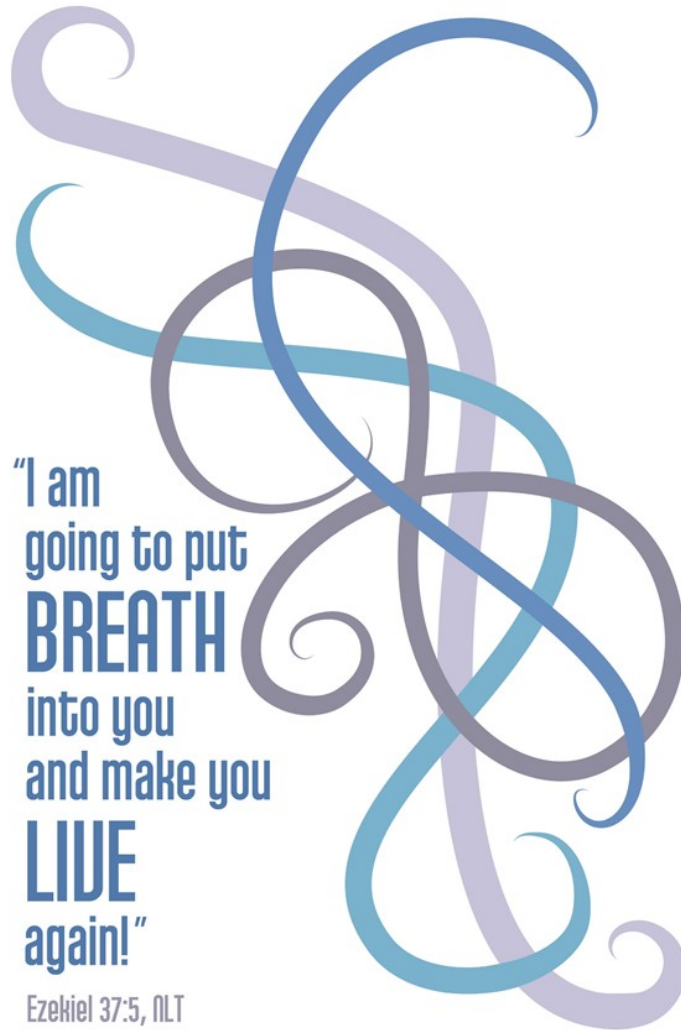
*Putting Jesus' Way of Life into Practice by...*

Encountering God, Loving One Another,  
& Reaching the World.

*Second Sunday of Advent*  
*December 7, 2025*

"I am  
going to put  
**BREATH**  
into you  
and make you  
**LIVE**  
again!"

Ezekiel 37:5, NLT



# *Welcome to Christ the Servant Lutheran Church*

## **PRELUDE**

## **WELCOME**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP** - Prepare Ye the Way

*(Solo)*

*Prepare ye the way of the Lord.*

*Prepare ye the way of the Lord.*

*(2x)*

*(Congregation)*

*Prepare ye the way of the Lord.*

*Prepare ye the way of the Lord.*

*(2x)*

## **ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING**

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure.

**Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Long-expected God,

**we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.**

God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. ☩ You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior. **Amen.**

## **GREETING**

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.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### **READING - Ezekiel 37:1-14**

<sup>1</sup> The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup> He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup> He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." <sup>4</sup> Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. <sup>5</sup> Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup> I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord."

<sup>7</sup> So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup> I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup> Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." <sup>10</sup> I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

<sup>11</sup> Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' <sup>12</sup> Therefore prophesy and say to them: Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup> And you shall know that I am the Lord when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup> I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord."

Word of God, Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL - John 11:21-27

The holy Gospel according to John, the eleventh chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup> Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup> But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." <sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." <sup>24</sup> Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." <sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, <sup>26</sup> and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" <sup>27</sup> She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON** - Pastor Jon

**HYMN OF THE DAY** - To God Be the Glory

1 To God be the glo-ry—great things he hath done! So loved he the  
2 O per-fect re-demp-tion, the pur-chase of blood, To ev-'ry be-  
3 Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done, And great our re-  
world that he gave us his Son, Who yield-ed his life an a-  
liev-er the prom-ise of God; The vil-est of-fen-der who  
joic-ing thru Je-sus the Son; But pu-rer, and high-er, and  
tone-ment for sin, And o-pened the life-gate that all may go in.  
tru-ly be-lieves, That mo-ment from Je-sus a par-don re-ceives.  
great-er will be Our won-der, our trans-port, when Je-sus we see.

**REFRAIN**

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear his voice! Praise the

Lord, praise the Lord, Let the peo-ple re-joice! O come to the Fa-ther thru

Je - sus the Son, And give him the glo - ry—great things he hath done!

#### **APOSTLES' CREED**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION - RESPONSE: Hear our prayer.**

#### **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

#### **OUR OFFERINGS**

#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

**NOURISHING GOD,**  
**you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert.**  
**Through this meal, satisfy our parched places,**  
**that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your**  
**kingdom come.**  
**Amen.**

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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.**

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Creator, Our Mother,  
**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,  
forever and ever. Amen

### **COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

#### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

God our host,  
at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness.  
Send us forth, eager to share the feast,  
welcome the stranger,  
and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus.  
Amen.

### **COMMUNITY LIFE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **BLESSING**

## SENDING HYMN - Soon and Very Soon



- 1 Soon and ver - y soon  
2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
3 No more dy - in' there,  
4 Soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon  
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
no more dy - in' there,  
soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon  
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King.  
no more dy - in' there,  
soon and ver - y soon



Hal-le - lu - jah, hal-le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep awake.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

## *Announcements*

### **Statistics**

The attendance on Sunday, November 30 was 45. 13 attended online. This week's offerings to General Fund: \$5,667 - online: \$621

### **Stewardship News**

It is time to turn in your commitment card for 2026. If you have not received a card or need a new one there are extras on the welcome desk.

### **Giving Tree**

We are again supporting 5 families from Vadnais Heights Elementary with gas and grocery needs this season. Take a tag off the tree (in the Narthex) and return it to Sue in the office with the gift card noted on it by Monday, December 15.

### **Christmas Worship Services**

As we celebrate the Advent and Christmas season please join us for *Christmas Reflections*, an intergenerational Christmas pageant on December 21 at 10:30 at CSLC along with our partner congregation Lakeview Lutheran. Our Christmas eve worship will be at 4:00 and 9:00 PM, and on the 28th we will again have a joint service at Lakeview at 10:30.

### **NEW Women's Book Club Begins in January**

Along with the new year come new beginnings! January 5, 2026 will mark the beginning of a brand new women's book club at CSLC! Sign up in the Narthex if you wish to join. The inaugural read will be CSLC member Gaye Lindfors' new book, *Anticipate God's Goodness*. Contact Mary Barlau with questions.

### **Ushers and Communion Assistants Needed**

Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex to serve as an usher or communion server. *Your gift of hospitality matters!*

### **Year-end Giving Opportunities**

As the year rapidly draws to a close it is time to consider year end giving opportunities. 2025 contributions must be received in the church office by December 30 postmarked by December 31, or for online transactions gifts must be fully processed by December 31 to be applied to your 2025 giving record. If you wish to pre-pay toward a 2026 pledge, please note this with your contribution so it may be applied correctly. Thank you for your support!



**UPCOMING DATES:**

December 16	Caring Friends Luncheon - 10:30-1:00
December 21	Christmas Program (joint) 10:30 AM
December 24	Christmas Eve Worship 4 & 9 PM
December 28	Joint Worship at Lakeview 10:30 AM
January 5	Women's Book Club meets

*Scan the QR code below to make a secure online donation.*



### **THIS WEEK AT CHRIST THE SERVANT**

#### **Today: December 7 - Second Sunday of Advent**

8:00 AM - Bible Study  
9:00 AM - Worship  
10:00 AM - Fellowship  
11:30 AM - EFLC Worship  
11:40 PM - EFLC Sunday School  
1:45 PM EF Board Meeting (SS Room)

#### **Monday, December 8**

9:00 AM - Package bread & deliver  
12:00 PM - Piecemakers (FH)

#### **Tuesday, December 9**

7:00 AM - Bread Preparation (FH)  
8:30 AM - Bread Distribution (FH)  
6:30 PM - AA (FH)

#### **Wednesday, December 10**

10:00 AM - Bible Study (FH)  
11:30 AM - Senior Hi-Lites  
6:00 PM - Youth  
7:00 PM - AA Mtg. (Class A)

#### **Thursday, December 11**

6:00 PM - Church Council Meeting

#### **Friday, December 12**

5:30 PM - EF Choir Rehearsal (Class A)  
6:00 PM - EF Board Meeting (SS Room)

#### **Saturday, December 13**

9:30 AM - Women's Bible Study  
11:00 AM - Revelation Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

#### **Sunday, December 14 - Third Sunday of Advent**

8:00 AM - Bible Study  
9:00 AM - Worship  
10:00 AM - Fellowship  
11:30 AM - EFLC Worship  
11:40 PM - EFLC Sunday School  
1:45 PM - EF Board Meeting (SS Room)

### **THIS WEEK AT LAKEVIEW**

#### **Today: December 7 - Second Sunday of Advent**

9:45 AM - Fellowship  
10:30 AM - Worship  
12:00 - 5:00 PM - Eternity Karen Baptist Church

#### **Monday, December 8**

7:00 PM - AA

#### **Tuesday, December 9**

6:00 -8:00 PM - Daycare Event

#### **Saturday, December 13**

12:00 - 4:00 PM - Private Rental

#### **Sunday, December 14 - Third Sunday of Advent**

9:45 AM - Fellowship  
10:30 AM - Worship  
12:00 - 5:00 PM - Eternity Karen Baptist Church

### **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS TODAY! THANK YOU!**


Greeter: Katie Wright  
Ushers: Steve Tigges  
Reader: Pam Irgens  
Sound Booth: Tim, Tom, Peter, Kim, Jayson, Tony  
Communion Assistants: Pam Irgens  
Musicians: Gaye Lindfors, Tony Lee  
Coffee Servers: Jacqueline Farm & Karen Lehner  
Bread Pickup: Jan Jarvinen  
Counters: Loretta Markham & Roger Gullickson

### **PRAYER REQUESTS...**

We pray for those in need of healing and mercy:  
Emily B., Mary-Kay L. who is hospitalized, Pastor Dick M. and caregiver Barb, Laiden S., Karen R., Norma (Mother of Leila H.), Sharon G., Deb G., Rollie, Brian I, Katie W., Al J., Bev, Steve, Paul S., Brian, Roger K., Gary C., Sarah K., Carol L., Salomie (sister-in-law of Peter), Patty W. (sister of Mike W.)

(Please call the church office with any prayer concerns or updates.)

**Thank you** for giving to support the ministries at Christ the Servant. You may give on our website: [www.cslcvh.org/giving](http://www.cslcvh.org/giving). Offering envelopes are available at the Welcome Desk.

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