

**CLC**  
**MILLVALE**  
Christ Lutheran Church

CLC Weekly Update - February 13th, 2022

**6th Sunday after Epiphany**

"Blessed are you who are poor,  
for yours is the kingdom of God."

**IN-PERSON WORSHIP**  
**this Sunday, February 13 at 9:30AM**  
**Pastor Erin Evans preaching**  
please visit us at: <https://www.clcmillvale.com>

**WORSHIP WITH US**

**6th Sunday after Epiphany**

**First Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-10**

**Psalm 1**

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20**

**Gospel: Luke 6:17-26**

**Pastor Erin Evans preaching**

Looking for a  
Church that  
serves the  
Community?

*In the neighborhood...*  
*For good.*



Blessings and curses abound on the sixth Sunday after Epiphany. We would do well to listen closely to whom the “blessed are” and the “woe tos” are directed and to find our place in the crowd among those who desire to touch Jesus. The risen Christ stands among us in the mystery of the holy supper with an invitation to live in him, and offers power to heal us all.







CLC Director of Music Ed Kapsha and Ashley Dietz were married this week in Montego Bay Jamaica. May God bless them and their marriage, and may their love reflect God's love for the world.

**We rejoice at the birth of Jackson Paul Adams**, son of Angie and Zach Adams, grandson of Beth and Joseph Rios and great-grandson of Pr. Tom and Judy Stennett. Jackson was born January 31st at 6.72-lbs. and 19 inches.



# Black History Month



In honor of Black History Month, I lift up the voices of African Descent Leaders in the Lutheran Church, whose stories you may not know. I'll share videos and articles about pastors and lay people who were/are instrumental in the life of the whole church. **Check the new links each week to learn more about powerful and humble leadership in our church.**

The ELCA sadly remains a predominantly white denomination for many reasons, but the voices are out there. Let us continue to listen to those whose experience differs from ours, to those who speak from the margins, and to those who challenge us to do better.

*In Christ's Love,  
Pastor Erin Evans*

**FEBRUARY 13TH, 2022**

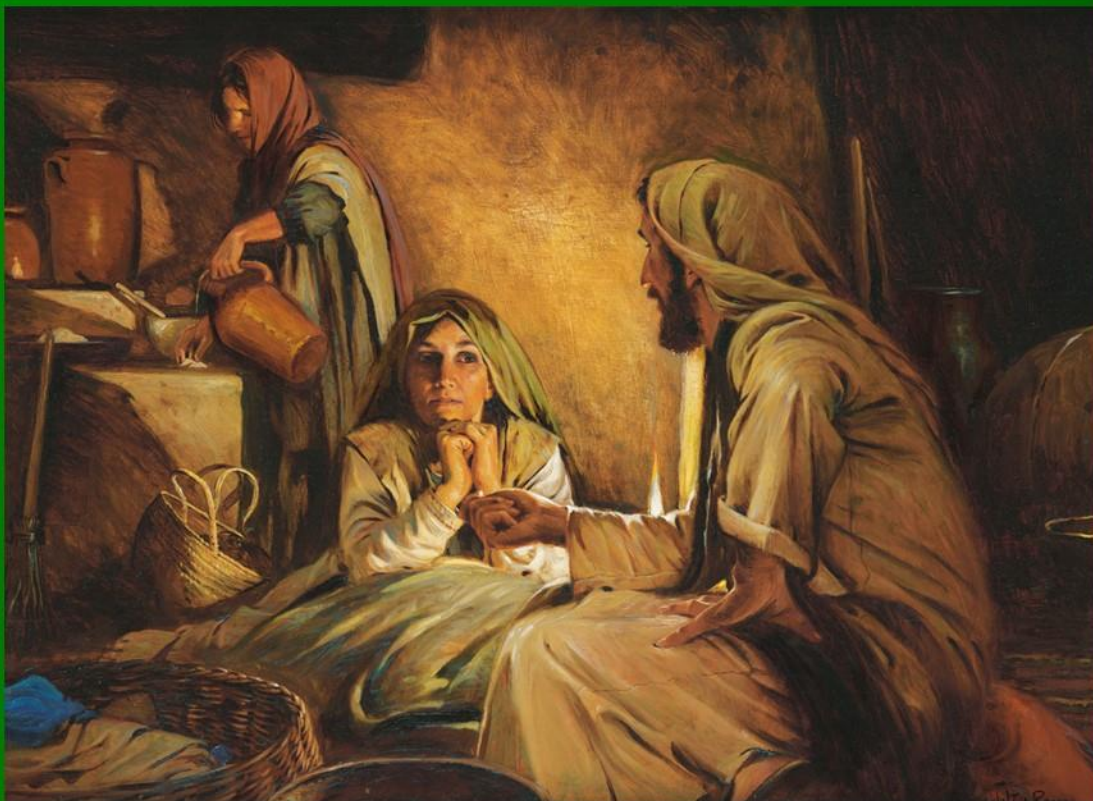
**The Mother of Black Lutheranism in America:** <https://www.livinglutheran.org/2021/02/the-mother-of-black-lutheranism-in-america/>

**The First African American Woman Lutheran Pastor:**  
<https://www.pressreader.com/usa/chicago-sun-times/20141217/282102045018096>

**The First Deaconess of African Descent - Sister Emma Francis:**  
<https://www.facebook.com/LSSVI/posts/today-is-the-birthday-of-sister-emma-francis-a-west-indian-woman-of-faith-and-wi/2167691269997406/>

**FEBRUARY 6TH, 2022**





## My Word! 1

Joseph Imhoff

"Words! Words! Words! I'm so sick of words! I get words all day through; first from him, now from you!" Eliza Doolittle laments to Freddie Eynsford-Hill in *My Fair Lady*. Word games are a popular pastime at home or entertainment such as Dr. Bergen Evans' 'Down You Go' on tv in the 50's, British radio's 'My Word' carried on NPR, Allen (Betty Whites's husband) Ludden's 'Password', down to Vanna White turning letters on 'Wheel of Fortune'! Words can be fun but then there are times when they must be taken seriously as when the Bible is translated.

Two thousand years ago Europe and Asia Minor were dominated by two languages in addition to local tongues: Latin and Greek. Classical Latin exists only in academia ("Latin's a dead language, first it killed the Romans and now it's killing me!" as any student in Latin class knows), but it remains the basis for Portuguese, Spanish, Catalan, French, Italian, Romanian, and Church Latin. Greek is still with us but, as all languages do, is always in a state of change that cycles over every two hundred years.

At the same time in the Holy Land there was Aramaic, the common tongue, and Hebrew, the language of religion much as Church Latin is these days. Jesus spoke Aramaic, a small group of Kurdish tribes in Kurdistan and Kazakhstan still speak the closest dialect to that of the time of Jesus. He, as a rabbi, would have known the scriptures in Hebrew. As an occupied country the people came in contact with the Latin and Greek of the day.

English speakers have a variety of translations to chose from: the





## Shoulder to Shoulder

While Matthew recalls Jesus' teachings commonly called "the Beatitudes" as shared from a mountaintop, Luke situates today's similar gospel lesson on a level plain. The plains are a place of great exposure—in the sense not only of how far one can see toward the horizon, but also of the harsh exposure to the elements without trees or hills to block the wind or shield one from the sun. On the plain, it can feel like everything has been laid bare; nothing can remain hidden for long. And true to the setting, much is exposed in this story. The rich and the poor, the joyful and the suffering, the hungry and the full are placed side by side. There is no hiding the inequality and injustice of the world.

Jesus' stark words reach across the page and the years to call us, the church, to examine our hearts, our relationships, and even our society. A level plain invites us to look our neighbors in the eyes, to hear their stories, to see their humanity. It forces us out of our bubbles, our social media echo chambers, and our circles of people who look like us and see the world in the same ways we do. A level plain flattens our hierarchies and forces many of us to face our privilege and our complacency in the systems of injustice that pervade our world.

But the good news is that this level plain is also a place of trans-

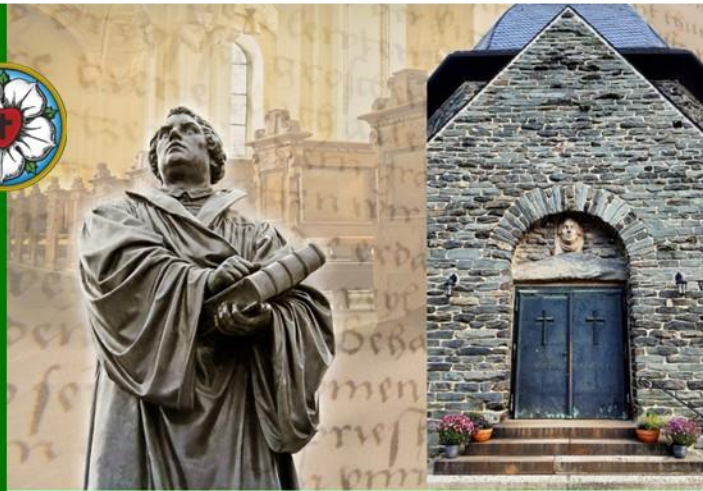
## Upcoming Commemorations

**Cyril, monk, died 869; Methodius, bishop, died 885; missionaries to the Slavs  
Monday, February 14, 2022**

These two brothers from Thessalonika, Greece, were monks and were sent to bring Christianity to the Slavic people. In the course of their work they created a written language, inventing the Cyrillic alphabet for it, and translated the Bible and the liturgy.

**Martin Luther, renewer of the church, died 1546  
Friday, February 18, 2022**

Though he began his adult church life as a simple Augustinian monk, Luther challenged the abuses he saw in the church, and his work eventually led to the Protestant Reformation. Luther's accomplishments included liturgical reform, translation of the Bible, and creation of the Small and Large Catechisms.



**The CLC Food Pantry is open 9:30-11:30am on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.**

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