

CLC Weekly Update - March 19, 2023 In-Person Worship March 19th at 9:30AM

# WORSHIP WITHUS Fourth Sunday In Lent

First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13 Psalm 23 Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14 Gospel: John 9:1-41

**Pastor Erin Evans preaching** 

Christ Lutheran Church 917 Evergreen Avenue, Millvale, PA 15209 Phone 412-821-4300 ~ Fax 412-693-9742 CLC Website: https://www.clcmillvale.com/ Youtube: clcmillvale Twitter: ChristMillvale Facebook and Instagram: #CLCMillvale Email to: ChristLutheran917@gmail.com

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## Holy Week Schedule

Sunda

**Palm Sunday Worship 9:30am** - Children and youth can help with the processional hymn.

Maundy Thursday 7pm - Remember Jesus' Last Supper with our Communion Service

Good Friday 7pm - Ponder with us the mystery and victory of the cross

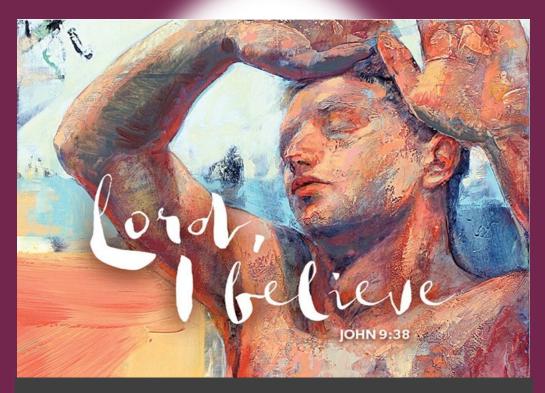
**Easter Sunday Worship 9:30am** - Celebrate the Day of Resurrection with us!



immediately following worship. Bring something to contribute to the potluck or just bring your appetite!

See you there!

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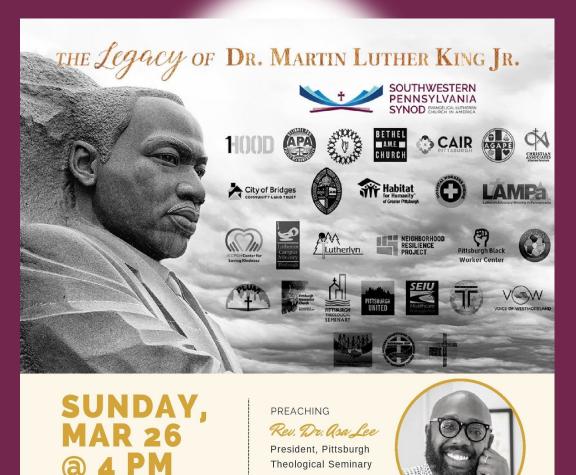
Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives. ~



# <u>Hymnals for</u> <u>Worship</u>

The green hymnals(LBW) in the pews are the Lutheran hymnals from 1978, while a new "cranberry" colored

hymnal (ELW) was introduced in 2006. While the entirety of our worship service is viewed on the screens, some have mentioned wanting to read music for our hymns. *Please grab a hymnal from the narthex if you'd like to have one for worship today!* 



An Ecumenical Service of Holy Communion & Call for Anti-racist Action

Berkeley Hills Lutheran Church & Livestreamed

usserow

Bishop Abraham Allende



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#### PANEL: EQUITABLE HOUSING IN PITTSBURGH





PRESIDING

Bishop Kurt





ELCA World Hunger, 1HOOD, Allegheny Valley Association of Churches, City of Bridges Community Land Trust, Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in PA

#### 2023 Theme: A Home for ALL in the Beloved Community



**Bishop Kurt Kusserow** Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod



Bishop Abraham Allende Northeast Ohio Synod, Retired

PREACHING



Rev. Dr. Asa J. Lee President, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and Professor of Theological Formation for Ministry

See: https://www.lutheranadvocacypa.org/event/the-legacy-of-dr-martin-luther-king-jr/ Read more about the Rev. Dr. Asa Lee: https://hpccpgh.org/2022/10/26/meet-yourneighbor-dr-asa-lee-president-of-the-pittsburgh-theological-seminary/

#### NEW FEATURE!

## "Ask The Pastor"

Submit an anonymous question in the offering plate, and you might get your question answered in the Weekly Update! Have a Bible question? A Church question? A burning query about what the number of candles means and why? *Ask away!* 

#### You asked, I'll answer!

Question: The book Deuteronomy states that you must purge the evil among you and kill them or stone them for many different sins including being unfaithful. Jesus says that he who is without sin can cast the first stone. New Testament God seems a lot more forgiving than Old Testament God. *What's going on here?* 

#### Answer:

Wow, you've noticed something huge. We can talk about a couple historical/cultural reasons that might be, as well as theological. First, scripture is the inspired word of God. Scripture is also an attempt to document and record what God's people thought, felt and experienced in their relationship with God. Scripture is written by people, with their own particular lens of experience and sense of culture and place. The Israelites of the Hebrew Bible had a much different sense of who they were and their own place in the world than the Jew of the New Testament Gospel stories, thousands of years later.

(Many Christians today now call it the Hebrew Bible as opposed to "Old" Testament. The "New" Testament is not a replacement, but a new perspective. This change doesn't make either of them less inspired.)

Jesus also said his purpose was not to abolish the law but fulfill it. The perspective of much of the Hebrew Bible is rooted in law - God's people's obligations and requirements. Of course, there is love, grace, and mercy, but passages like what you pointed out are plentiful - especially when it comes to keeping the Law, and maintaining proper ritual and cultural identity. This was what made them God's people. As Jesus fulfilled the law, he opened the love and mercy of God to all people, not just the ones who had been partnering with God from the beginning. And, most importantly, the way in which HE fulfilled the law, means that our salvation is not tied to keeping the law. A new way of understanding and being in relationship with God was made available to us, through Jesus.

#### Thanks for your question!

#### **Christ Lutheran Church**



## LENTEN WEDNESDAYS: SPIRITUAL DRUMMING

One way to improve conscious contact with God through prayer and meditation is with music. Drumming has been used in nearly every faith for the purpose of experiencing the sacredness of God. The earliest music one experiences is the heartbeat of their mother. The simple heartbeat is the sound of the universe – the sound of life. Drumming is a time -honored method of uniting people, and the power of drumming multiplies on many levels in a group of drummers.

We invite you to join us for Spiritual Drumming on Wednesdays during Lent on March 22nd and 29th, from 7:00 – 8:00pm. Share in the prayers and rhythmic energy of the drum as we lift our prayers up to God. We'll explore our Lenten theme, "Ask", and engage in conversations and questions. No previous music experience is necessary, and drums will be provided. See Pat Bauer if you have more questions about drumming, and please sign-up in the narthex.

#### **Christ Lutheran Church**

With abiding hope in the resurrection to eternal life, we announce the death of Anna Marie Ruzomberka on March 15th.



"Miss Ann" was a beloved Sunday School teacher for 52 years here at Christ Lutheran Church. Viewing was Friday, March 17th, at Hahn Funeral Home. Anna Marie's funeral service was at the church on Saturday, March 18th. *Please keep the family in your prayers*.

https://www.hahnfhandcremationservices.com/obituary/Anna-Ruzomberka

Thank you to all who sent cards, food, well-wishes and words of encouragement! I'm returning to work this week, feeling good, while continuing to heal from major abdominal surgery. Your care and concern for me was touching, and I very much appreciate your support! - Pastor Erin

> We mourn the death of and celebrate the life of Annamae Gosnell.

Annamae entered eternal life on March 11. Her funeral service was Wednesday, March 15th with Pastor Erin Evans officiating.

Please keep the Gosnell family in your prayers.

https://www.hahnfhandcremationservices.com/obituary/Annamae-Gosnell

# **Online Giving Update:**

No matter the amount, the most helpful way to give to the ministries of the congregation is regularly and consistently. Whether it's weekly or monthly, make a prayerful decision ahead of time this Lent, and commit to a consistent amount.

With our online giving platform, Vanco, it's super easy! Go to:

https://www.clcmillvale.com/ donate/

See the **Online Giving Code** here, and **Thank You!** 





**LENTEN OFFERING:** This year's special offering will go towards the campus ministry (PSALM) at the Lutheran University Center in Pittsburgh. Pastor Brian Bennett visited us several weeks ago as our guest preacher. If you are able, please use the special purple envelopes in your envelope box to support this vital ministry to young adults in Pittsburgh. Visit www.psalm.online.

## PSALM

Pittsburgh Students Active In Lutheran Ministry A campus ministry for students at Pitt, CMU, Chatham and Carlow universities. Coming out of the Lutheran tradition but welcoming students of any faith tradition.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS: canned vegetables and canned soup! Thanks for your regular support!



The Food Pantry is Open Mondays and Fridays from 9:30am to 11:30am, and on Wednesdays from 5pm to 7pm.

# SUMMER CAM

## Let's Go To Camp!

**Registration for Camp Lutherlyn is open!** CLC has a long history of supporting Camp Lutherlyn in Prospect PA, and outdoor ministry has touched the lives of generations. We have a scholarship fund to make sure YOUR child or grandchild can experience this life-changing adventure in faith! Check out their <u>website</u> to find registration details, and speak to Pastor Erin or Treasurer Ray Lardin about this exciting opportunity! Go to: https://www.lutherlyn.com/ summercamp/summer\_overview.html

Camp Lutherlyn also has summer employment opportunities for young adults 17 and over! Check out the information below to have the summer of your life! Go to: https://www.lutherlyn.com/summercamp/ summer\_employment.html

**Everyone can join Pastor Erin for CAMP BLAST on May 13th!** This is a completely free day and open house full of fun at Camp Lutherlyn. You can get to know the place and experience it for yourself. Mark your calendars now for a day at camp!

**Christ Lutheran Church** 





https://www.lutherlyn.com/summercamp/summer\_employment.html

# SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

**NEW SUMMER STAFF -** Follow These Steps to APPLY:

- 1.) Read the Information Below to Learn More About the Ministry of Lutherlyn and Employment Details
- 2.) Fill Out the Application (must create a "campbrain" account)
- 3.) Have Three (3) References Complete the Online Reference Form
- 4.) Once Your Application and ALL Three References Are Received, You Will Be Contacted to Schedule an Interview

**RETURNING SUMMER STAFF** - If you have already served on summer staff in the past 3 years, please complete the Returning Staff Application. Returning staff DO NOT need to submit references again.

Returning Staff Application (must create a "campbrain" account)

CLC Website: https://www.clcmillvale.com/ Youtube: clcmillvale ; Twitter: ChristMillvale ; Facebook and Instagram: #CLCMillvale.

**NEW! Squirrel Hill Health Center Mobile Medical Unit At CLC** Do you need a local Dr. you can walk to? Need a quick check up or conversation and not sure where to go? The Mobile Medical Unit RV will be parked here on NORTH AVENUE, TWICE A MONTH, for all your primary care needs! See below:

# SHHC'S MOBILE MEDICAL UNIT IS COMING TO MILLVALE

SQUIRREL HILL

HEALTH CENTER

Squirrel Hill Health Center's mobile medical unit provides primary healthcare services to Pittsburgh communities, regardless of patients' income level or insurance status. We treat

patients of every age.

PAYMENTS AND INSURANCE: SHHC ACCEPTS ALL INSURANCES AND OFFERS A SLIDING FEE SCALE FOR THOSE WHO ARE UNINSURED.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SHHC, PLEASE CALL (412) 904-5284

## **CLINIC DATES:**

1PM - 4:30PM | THURSDAY, MARCH 23RD
Christ Lutheran Church Millvale
917 Evergreen Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15209
\*\*Mobile Unit Will Be Parked on North Ave\*\*

**IN PARTNERSHIP WITH** 



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Christ Lutheran Church



## Today's Saint

Joseph Imhoff

This Sunday, March 19, is the Feast of Saint Joseph, and since 1983 it is considered a solemnity and the day is not subject to the obligation of fasting and abstinence. Joseph, Guardian of our Lord is the Patron Saint of Poland and Canada and revered in many Catholic countries the day is known as Father's Day. Only two of the Gospels mention him, Matthew and Luke, and each in different contexts.

Both give genealogy lists which differ in tracing his line back to either Abraham or to God to satisfy the requirement of Jesus' claim of Messiahship. **The dreams in Matthew are for Joseph to have no fear in marrying Mary, flee Herod's wrath by going to Egypt and then when it safe to return;** after that there is no mention of Joseph. Luke devotes more press coverage to Joseph from being engaged to Mary before the proclamation by Gabriel, the trip to Bethlehem, Jesus' birth, naming and presentation in the Temple then the return Galilee and the town of Nazareth, nothing concerning the flight to Egypt. Every year Mary and Joseph went up to Jerusalem for the Passover and when Jesus was twelve he wandered off only later found to hobnobbing with the teachers. Upon returning with his parents we learn he grew in wisdom an years in divine and human favor yet after that point Joseph is never mentioned.

Many myths and legends sprang up about Joseph long after the Gospels were written: he was much older and been married with other children but was a widower when he was engaged to Mary. Many Popes throughout the years made speculations really decisive has ever come about.

Joseph was never canonized by the Church for the position he holds as a member of the Holy Family is far above what humans could honor!  $\sim$ 

#### **Christ Lutheran Church**



# What? Or Why?

What do we believe? Our Lutheran heritage is rooted in theological debate, and such conversations have always been a part of our tradition. Disagreements about theological propositions and biblical interpretations have led to split after split among Lutheran church bodies and congregations. At the same time, our theological and biblical commitments have led us to seek the unity of the church with mergers among Lutheran denominations and with common communion agreements with our ecumenical neighbors. In our broader culture it also seems that theology often leads the way in conversations about faith. Theological principles from various religious communities are used to argue for or against laws, corporate practices, and cultural expectations.

In today's gospel story we find something different leading the way: the blind man's experience of the healing power of Jesus. This experience is at odds with the theological thought of the religious leaders. The narrative reads like a trial, one in which the primary witness is hostile to the line of questioning from the prosecution. The conversations the leaders have with the man and his parents are a mess of misunderstanding that leads to insult and accusation. They are talking about theology; he and his parents are talking about experience. No one is there to translate between the two.

Why do you believe? Our understandings of God are certainly shaped by the communities of which we have been a part and theologies we have learned. Yet, God's grace is not something we logic our way through; it is something we experience. The early church debated all sorts of theological positions, but their witness was grounded in their experience of death and resurrection. What we believe is important, but as we step into each day as witnesses of God's love for the world, why we believe may be the most hope-filled message we have to share. ~

#### **Christ Lutheran Church**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

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Reminder

Week at

This

CLC:

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#### This Week at CLC:

#### Sunday

March 19 - Sunday STEAM 8:30am CLC Sunday Worship Service at 9:30am

#### Monday

March 20 - 9:30 to 11:30am FOOD PANTRY 5-6pm TOPS CLUB, 6:15pm Tai Chi

#### Wednesday

March 22 - 2:30pm Sewing 4-8pm Anchorpoint Millvale Community Counseling 5-7pm FOOD PANTRY 7-8pm Spiritual Drumming

#### Thursday

March 23 -1-4:30pm Medical RV 5:30-7pm Boy Scouts 6:30-7:30pm Violin Practice 7pm Choir Practice

#### Friday

March 24 - 9:30 to 11:30am FOOD PANTRY 7pm NA, Library

#### Saturday

March 25 - 9am AA meets in the Library 7pm NA meets in the Library

#### Sunday

March 26 - Sunday STEAM 8:30am CLC Sunday Worship Service at 9:30am





#### PRE-K THROUGH GRADE 6

#### SUNDAYS AT 8:30AM



#### Upcoming Commemorations

#### Joseph, Guardian of Jesus Sunday, March 19, 2023

Though the Bible tells us little about the husband of Jesus' mother Mary, we know that he was a carpenter or builder by trade. He is also shown as being devoted both to God and to Mary and Jesus. It is assumed that he died before Jesus became an adult.



#### Thomas Cranmer, Bishop of Canterbury, martyr, died 1556 Tuesday, March 21, 2023

Cranmer's lasting achievement is contributing to and overseeing the creation of the Book of Common Prayer, which remains (in revised form) the worship book of the Anglican Communion. He was burned at the stake under Queen Mary for his support of the Protestant Reformation.

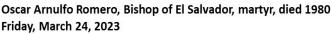


## Jonathan Edwards, teacher, missionary to American Indians, died 1758

#### Wednesday, March 22, 2023

A Puritan minister in Connecticut, Edwards is remembered as being a great preacher. Though his most famous sermon talks at length about hell, he was more concerned with God's love. He served both as missionary to the Housatonic people in Massachusetts, and as president of the future Princeton University.





Romero was deeply concerned with injustices evident toward the poor and powerless in El Salvador, and worked forthrightly against political repression. He was assassinated while presiding at the eucharist in a chapel near the cathedral in San Salvador.

#### Annunciation of Our Lord Saturday, March 25, 2023

Nine months before Christmas we celebrate the annunciation, in which the angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she would give birth to the Son of God. The ancient church believed that this was also the date of the world's creation and of Jesus' death on the cross.

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### **Easter Flower Orders**

Order envelopes are available in the narthex. Please return them to the office, paid in full. If you cannot come to the church to get an envelope, please call the office and we can submit an order for you. Unless previous arrangements have been made, any flowers left over after Easter will be given to a homebound member or neighbor in need!



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From the Pastor's Desk: clipart446827

Holy Week Schedule: illustration-gd61956422\_1280\_Pixabay

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Anna Marie Ruzomberka: NicePng\_real-flowers-png\_1353094

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Hymnals for Worship: httpclipart-library.comimagesXrijgAbcR.jpg

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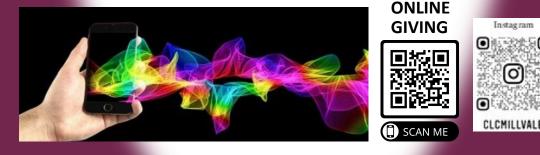
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Easter Flowers: flowers-daffodils-veronica\_4509457\_1280 Beverly Buckley from Pixabay

Today's Saint: dreamstime\_m\_177136377\_Photo 177136377 Zatletic Dreamstime.com

What? or Why?: Masolino da Panicale\_Florentine, c. 1383 - 1435 or after \_The Archangel Gabriel, c. 1430\_The national Gallery of Art public domain

Upcoming Commemorations: St. Joseph\_ClaudiaPonce01; Thomas Cranmer - Wikipedia\_Portrait by Gerlach Flicke, 1545\_public domain; Mural con la imagen de Monseñor Óscar Arnulfo Romero, ubicado en el Edificio Histórico de la Facultad de Jurisprudencia y Ciencias Sociales de la Universidad de El Salvador 1991\_Source Mural pintado con acrílico y óleos\_Wikipedia: The Annunciation\_1898 painting by the African-American painter Henry Ossawa Tanner-Paris, France\_1859–1937\_Purchased with the W. P. Wilstach Fund, 1899 \_Philadelphia Museum of Art\_public domain\_Wikipedia; Jonathan Edwards Pastor-theologian-missionary\_1758\_public domain\_Wikipedia Cellphone with Colored Ribbon: Gerd Altman from Pixabay



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