



Christ Lutheran Church

ENews

Thursday, February 8,
2024

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Visit our Landing Pages

For
Worship

Click the box above for readings, hymns, and worship assistants' list for this Sunday's worship

Office
News

Click the box above for office hours and information on how to reach the Pastor and office

Community
News

New Events Posted!

Click the box above to see what opportunities are available in the area, like [the housing justice campaign](#).

Church
News

New Events Posted!

Click the box above for information about church events like our [monthly book group](#).

From the Pastor | For me, Lent has been – and remains – one of the most mysterious and hard-to-grasp seasons of the liturgical year. Part of this mystery stems from my time before my adult baptism, when I wasn't a part of a formal faith community. I would be going about my usual life on a particular Wednesday in the late winter and see people walking around with black, smudgy crosses on their foreheads. "That's so . . . weird," I would think to myself. What does it mean? Why do they do that?



Once I was welcomed into the Lutheran church and began to participate in Ash Wednesday and the whole of the Lenten season, there were still more questions than answers. Why do we celebrate our mortality? Is it better to give up things (fast from foods or behaviors) or to add things in (more prayer, almsgiving, worship attendance)? Can anyone really do both?

Historically, Lent has shifted its meaning over the centuries of Christianity. . . .

[Click here to read more](#)



Our annual journey through Lent begins this coming **Wednesday, February 14**, at 7:30 PM with the Ash Wednesday Service. To help guide you through the season, we have put together a Lent 2024 guide. It includes information about mid-week offerings in Natick and the Synod, ways to keep your Lenten pilgrimage using technology, and other opportunities to deepen your Lenten devotion.

Once again we will offer weekday video devotions through YouTube. Emails will drop each morning, and you can also find them on our website or our YouTube page.

You can find the digital version of the **Lent guide here** and we will have print copies available starting this Sunday.



Just six days until the beginning of Lent Madness! With this week's Monday Madness video (see above) we learned that the new Digital Saintly Scorecard has dropped (you can find it by [clicking here](#)). This document contains biographies of all the saints to help you set up your very own bracket. We will have personal-sized brackets for everyone this Sunday.

If you haven't signed up to get the Lent Madness videos it's not too late! Visit www.lentmadness.com. On the right-hand side you will see a heading that says "Subscribe." Enter your email address and you will be taken to a sign up page where you can choose what kinds of emails to receive from Forward Movement (the organization behind Lent Madness). If you need help, please let Russell or Pr. Christephor know!

Hear Ye, hear ye!

You are invited and encouraged to attend Semi-Annual Meeting Part I on Sunday, February 11 after worship.

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The congregation will receive financial reports
and vote to approve a budget.

February cold
together we hear good news
warm news for our souls

reports it hungers
dollars, cents, figures, it needs
feed the hunger now

somnolence and rest
the call to rise begins now
prepare, it seeks you

heavy heart bestirs
itself seeking statistics
pacify hunger

OF THE LAND AND SEASONS

liturgy with twang!



**Sunday
February 11
10 am**

**Christ Lutheran Church
113 Union Street
Natick, MA**

www.christnatick.org

Last Sunday's Service Recording | [Click this link to view last Sunday's service \(2/4\)](#)

Music Notes | The CLC and St. John (Sudbury) choirs joined forces with

guest singers for last Sunday's Evening Prayer: Praying for Peace to lead the music of the liturgy, psalms, and prayers and to present appropriate music for a traditional Lutheran vespers service.

I am especially grateful for our choirs, John Whitlock (cantor), Kim Petot (bells), Joan Ellersick (viola), Celeste Larson and associates (potluck dinner), and Pastor Gilbert (presider) for creating an evening of peace and grace.

St. John choir director, Ben Perry initiated this series of cooperative evening prayer services two years ago. By joining choral forces, we have been able together to offer exciting and diverse music that we cannot otherwise perform as individual choirs. If you missed last Sunday's Evening Prayer: Praying for Peace, go to this [url](#) to have a look.

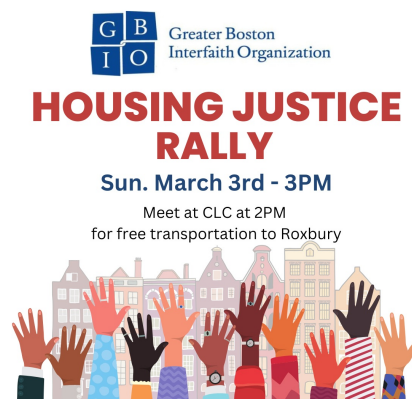
Tom Berryman
Music Director

Book Group | The next Book Group meeting is Monday, March 4. Visit our [Church News page](#) for updated information on the new book.

Everyone Deserves a Home! |

Join your friends at CLC and around Natick for the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO) for the GBIO Housing Justice Campaign Housing Justice Rally.

CLC in partnership with Hartford Street Presbyterian will provide round-trip transportation via bus from CLC (113 Union Street). **The bus will leave at 1:45 sharp from the parking lot!**



Visit our [Community News page](#) for more information.

Natick Immigrant Welcoming Policy | We have lived into our call to welcome the stranger in our participation with the MetroWest Asylee Coalition. Visit our [Community News page](#) for more information.

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YOUNG ADULT BORDER IMMERSION



Accompaniment-style border immersion in Las Cruces, New Mexico that educates young adults 18 - 35 about the realities of migration through firsthand experience, relationship-building, and advocacy.

April 24-28, 2024

Applications are open now
through February 16

What is covered:

- Accommodations & food
- Housing
- Local transportation

What is not covered:

- \$50 refundable deposit
- Transportation to Las Cruces, NM



bit.ly/yaborderimmersion jenna.leazott@elca.org

Travel assistance available

Sunday, February 11 @ 10 am: Of the Land and Seasons Service

Sunday, February 11 @ 11:30 am: Semi-Annual Meeting I

Wednesday, February 14 @ 7:30 pm: Ash Wednesday Service

Sunday, February 18 @ 11:30 am: WMVA Meeting

Christ Lutheran Church
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