



Christus Victor Lutheran
Church

November Voice 2020

To bring the life, love and teachings of Jesus Christ to today's world..



FALL BACK

Time change November 1, 2020 2:00 am , set your clocks back 1 hour.





Hello Christus Victor Family and Friends!

Thanksgiving is just around the corner. In the year 2020, it is EASY to get lost in all the craziness that has gone on.

In January/February, we begin to hear about this horrible virus that was hitting China incredibly hard. Our ability to hear about the virus and think, “while it was devastating China, here in the US, we were safe and sound”, came to an abrupt stop when we began to hear about the crisis in New York. Hospitals had run out of room in their ICU departments, the ER department and even in the morgues. It was no longer “over there”. In Texas, we tried to think that New York had done something wrong to be impacted so hard. But soon, this pandemic hit our state, our city, and even in some of our homes, and the world shut down. We thought it would be just a few weeks and things would get back to normal. But here we are more than 8 months later, and “normal” doesn’t seem to be in sight!

We have been pushed to face the reality, that while we have come a long way in the area of race relations and civil rights, we have a long way to go. We want to see videos like the one of George Floyd and believe that He is responsible for being in that situation, but we cannot deny that these police officers were wrong, and now this man is dead. We want to believe it can happen to anyone regardless of their race, and, it can. But if we face the facts, the chances that this would have happened if George Floyd was white, are very slim. There is a reality that the African American community face that those of us who are white cannot understand. We have friends who are black that have not experienced this sort of racism. Well, at least we believe that. This incident should have made us see that we have not taken the time to understand our brothers and sisters of color. Assuming they would share with us the fears they have, or the ways in which the color of their skin alone has caused them to have extra burdens in their life has allowed us to see the world we want to see. We, as people of faith do not care about color, or gender or sexual orientation, or... all the other ways we are divided as people. Right? Or, have we just allowed ourselves to be in a bubble where we believe people are all treated the same?

We are in the middle of the most divisive election I have ever experienced. The twisting or distorting of facts about all of the candidates seems to be a way of life. Being able to “choose” what is true seems a way of life for all parties.

Then there is the weather tragedies all over the nation: SEVERAL hurricanes hit Louisiana and other gulf coast states. Wildfires in California, Colorado, Oregon and Washington. Hurricane force winds devastated hundreds of miles of property and crops in Iowa. And the list goes on.

This has been a crazy and challenging year filled with uncertainty, and the year isn’t over. It is easy for us to get overwhelmed by it all and pulled into that feeling of depression. But we are called to look toward our God.

The Psalmist writes:

Psalm 46:7-11 *7The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. 8Come, behold the works of the LORD; see what desolations he has brought on the earth. 9He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. 10"Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth." 11The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.*

So, in the midst of the overwhelming reality of our lives in 2020; a time when we may find it hard to see what there is to be thankful for; it is more important than ever that we find the good that is around us and to give thanks.

While Covid 19 shut down the world and required that we not gather in person to worship, our church, along with so many others, have stepped up and found ways to be the church beyond the doors of our sanctuaries. People are watching, and hopefully participating in worship in their homes (often in their PJs. How nice). People have gathered as families to worship in a more intimate way. People have stepped up to help those who are vulnerable to this virus by bringing groceries to their neighbors. Zoom and other such platforms has provided the opportunity to reconnect with friends from all over the world, and given working parents the chance to be home with their families more. (maybe too much more!). The Lord of Host is with us and we can be thankful.

The natural disasters have devastated communities and taken things that are so important to people. Yet, within moments of the disasters clearing, people began to move. Neighbors have checked on neighbors they had never met. People who have been spared from the fires and storm have stepped up to do all they can to help those who are affected. I heard of people who came into communities affected by the wild fires bringing equipment to sift through the ashes in order to help families recover what few possessions may have survived the heat. Imagine the joy of someone finding your wedding ring or something that you received from your grandparents? God was there and continues to be there bringing hope and healing out of the devastation.

Soon, the election season will be over. Some people will be down right angry with the results no matter who wins. Yet, when the need to present and image is over, and those elected are able to go back to work, maybe, just maybe, we will all realize that the only way to change the hostile, divided feeling of our country is to sit down with our "enemies" so that we might understand more clearly how they feel and how we can find common ground to start the healing of our nation. "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies". God reminds us that this is where we have to start!

It is easy to get lost in the difficulties of this year, but we know that we do not face the difficulties alone. God is with us always, even when we refuse to see God. God calls us, as God's children, to be the voice of hope and joy when the world is struggling. And if we find it hard to "see" what we can be thankful for, remember, God's grace, forgiveness and love is given to us freely, though we do not deserve it. Start there and I am certain, your list of things to be thankful for will grow quickly.

God Bless you all,
Pastor Tammy



Having services in person is going well. We have not been too crowded, and the individual communion packs are working well. An offering can be put in the plates on the way in. Families can sit together, and other people can be three seats away from each other to maintain the six feet distance. We are working out the bugs in the sound system and screens, which is going well. The Main Street Messengers are performing every third Sunday like before. We are almost back to normal. Masks need to be worn throughout the service, and there is no gathering in the sanctuary or narthex. The baptism for Aubrey Nichole went very well. The font was up in front so that the baptism could be shown on the camera. Let Pastor Tammy or Stacey Keener know if you have any questions about service in person.

We have two musical groups that have started up again. The Main Street Messengers meet at 9:15 AM on Sunday morning. If you are interested in joining this group, let Marianne Citraro know. I will be joining them to sing “Springs of Life” by Ginny Owens and the rest of the service. Bell Choir is meeting at 6PM on Monday nights. The Bell Choir will not play in person, but will record their pieces and have them streamed on the screens during the service. If you are interested in joining the Bell Choir, let Trish Fowzer know. We have four people playing now, but we could always use more.

We will be changing liturgies. The Main Street Messengers will be playing Setting Five in With One Voice, which we learned a year or so ago. It is really good with drums and guitar as well as piano. This is one of my favorite liturgies. We will use Now the Feast and Celebration starting in Advent for non-Praise Sundays. This is one we know very well. We will have Advent Services on Wednesdays using Holden Evening Prayer, but we will not have soup suppers this time. We will also live stream these services. This way, if you can't be with us in person, you can be with us in spirit.

Yours in Christ,

Stacey E. Keener



I think music in itself is healing. It's an explosive expression of humanity. It's something we are all touched by. No matter what culture we're from, everyone loves music.
-Billy Joel

Music News

Greetings!

I have truly been enjoying our worship services now that we have smiling faces in the sanctuary again! I have especially loved hearing the sounds of handbells in rehearsal and beautiful voices of our congregation albeit with masks on. You are still coming in loud and clear to my heart!

Advent is now on the horizon, and I so miss choir rehearsals. I think I have the zoom meeting thing ready to try to visit with our choir members but I only had 1 person attend the last time I went live. Do you want to get your voice going again? Do you want to visit each other? Do you want some warm-ups to sing around the house? Would you like a new song a week to practice? If so, I need folks to let me know. I am ready, Ready, READY!!!

I have another idea brewing as well. I plan on doing the first zoom meetings from the sanctuary at 7:15 p.m. on Monday nights. If you want to join me live, you can drop by and pick a chair as far away as you like. Please if 2 or 3 people give me the word they want to zoom, I can start this coming Monday!!! Finally, I am in need of soloist for November and Advent selections in December.

Please know you have my love and my hopes for music making sooner than later!!

Trish 💜



Main St. Messenger's
If you are interested in singing praise songs,
please come to practice on Sunday
mornings at 9:15 am
Everyone welcome!

Christus Victor Children's School

During the month of November our classes will be learning about fall, nutrition, and Thanksgiving.

The school will be closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday on Thursday, November 26th and Friday, November 27th. Have a Wonderful and Happy Thanksgiving,

God Bless,
Tebertha Henderson

“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

God Bless,
Tebertha Henderson



This Children's Church Mission Statement is:

To teach our children the word of God and the teachings of Jesus Christ in a manner that is engaging, age appropriate and is relevant in their lives.

The curriculum is seasonal with thirteen lessons divided into three units. Each unit has a memory verse and song that goes with the lessons. We are currently using the Fall 2019 curriculum. Moving forward I will be emailing the parents of the children in our congregation the scripture we will be studying and the memory verse for the unit. I ask that the children read the scripture over the course of the week to prepare for the lesson and also to bring their Spark Bible to Children's Church with them.

Thank You,
Christine Sapp

Scout News

Mark Kostujn, an Eagle Scout Candidate from Troop 615, built three benches for CVLC's butterfly garden for his Eagle project.



Time Changes November 1, 2020 at 2:00 am

Set your clocks back 1 hour before going to bed on Saturday night.



Peggy Bassett	11/02
Conrad Schafman	11/03
Karen Sebung	11/03
John Dougherty	11/04
Katie Dougherty-Pitts	11/04
Catherine Birkelbach	11/08
Mark Phillips	11/08
Andre Massey	11/09
Jay Citraro	11/10
Tyler Crowl	11/11
Hannah Hall	11/12
Wanda Toedter	11/12
Bill Boatwright	11/14
Marjorie Duffield	11/16
Jon Hall	11/17
Bobbie Gibson	11/18
Karen Connelly	11/24
Lorna Reed	11/24
Millie Geiger	11/27
Rick Sharp	11/27
Jordan Smith	11/30



Connie & Tom Smith	11/14
Carol & Johnny Vykukal	11/14



2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 9:15 am Main St. Messenger's Practice 10:30 am Worship Service Council Meeting	9 6pm Bell Choir CVCS Board Meeting 6 pm pm	10	11	12 7:00 pm Worship Committee Meeting	13	14
15 9:15 am Main St. Messenger's Practice 10:30 am Worship Service	16 6pm Bell Choir	17	18	19	20	21
22 9:15 am Main St. Messenger's Practice 10:30 am Worship Service	23 6pm Bell Choir	24	25	26	27	28
29 9:15 am Main St. Messenger's Practice 10:30 am Worship Service	30 6pm Bell Choir					30



Health Concerns

(removed after 30 days)

Karen Connelly (10/15/20)
Amanda Cookson (10/15/20)

Personal Needs

(removed after 30 days)

Bereavement

(removed after 2 weeks)

Serving in our Military

Michael Bredeson
Brandon Geiger
Spencer Karkosky
Noah Keener
Alysa Mann Meyer
Blake Meyer
Zach Wood

Long Term Care/Medical Treatments

(remains until requested to be removed)

Earl Armstrong
Steve Bivens
Sylvia Coursen
Ashlynn Coury-Moseley
Letha Frederick
Bobbie Gibson
Elissa Gould-Schautd
Carolyn Hannum
Warren Harris
Victoria Jungnickel
Bill Koch
Jeff Mallios
Merl Matthewman
Ray Mitchell
Irene Richmond
Marjorie Schaeffman
Patricia Meyer Schalla
Carol Schautd
Ken Schautd
Tom Sharp
Wanda Toedter
Nate Tupper
Cathy Vaughn
Marvin (brother of Marjorie Schaeffman) (6/19)

Due to HIPPA regulations and pastoral confidentiality issues, we do not give specific details of prayer concerns in the bulletin. Please pray, however, for those who ask for our prayers for God knows and understands their needs. We pray that God's will be done.

When a prayer request arrives marked confidential it is not placed on the prayer list. Pastor Tammy will pray for the request.

Please obtain permission from the person or the family before adding them to the list.

Christus Victor Lutheran Church....281-332-6847

Vision Statement: “To bring the Life, Love, and Teachings of Jesus Christ to Today’s World”

Sunday School: 9:00 am **Sunday Worship:** 10:30 am

Church and School Contact Information :

Contact info for Pastor Tammy Sharp - Cell # 281-924-1667

Tammy’s E-mail: pastortammy@comcast.net

Tammy’s Office Hours: 9 am until 4pm Monday thru Thursday. [Friday...out of office.]

Church Office Hours: 8:30 am until 3:00 pm M—T [Friday 8:30 am -1:30 pm]

Church Secretary, Sandie Price Office# 281-332-6847

Church Office E-mail - cvlctx@comcast.net

Website- www.christusvictor.us

Choir Director, Patricia Fowzer

Worship Committee Chairperson, Stacey Keener 281-797-6775

Children’s School Director, Tebertha Henderson...281-332-2821 E-mail...directorcvcs@comcast.net

OFFERING REPORT YEAR-TO-DATE (10/31/2020)

2020 Offering Needed: \$ 161,351.91

Current Offerings Received: \$ 119,427.61

Shortfall: \$ 41,924.30

Building Fund Offerings ytd: \$ 14,077.51

**Building fund loan balance: \$ 28,970.85
(as of October 11, 2020)**

Church Council Members:

Council President: Sara Smart

Council Vice President: Karen Sebung

Council Secretary: Vanessa Zambrana

Church Treasurer: Carol Vykukal

Property:

School Board President: Sara Smart

Outreach: Diana Bredeson

Education: Lisa Kutinac

Worship: Ruby Morrow

Parish Life: Paula Towner

Stewardship: Brad Loucas