

**Welcome to
Christ Lutheran Church**



**Stories *that*
SHAPE US**

Jonah & God's Mercy

The Book of Jonah

November 8, 2020

9:00am & 11:00am

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

To keep everyone safe, especially the most vulnerable among us, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- All in-person services require masks & social distancing. If you are not feeling well or have been recently exposed to COVID, please stay home & attend the Virtual Service.
- Respect others' space, boundaries, and feelings out of love.
- We will fill the sanctuary front to back, using every other pew. At the end of worship, we will release people back to front.
- Once you find your spot, stay where you are and do not move around. This is important for children too.
- Other than the sanctuary, bathrooms & narthex, the rest of the building is closed.
- Pastor will stay behind the altar & pulpit other than to distribute Communion. In order to facilitate communication, he will not wear a mask when leading the liturgy or preaching, but will wear a mask to distribute Communion.
- Communion will be brought to you. Further instructions will be given at that time. If you do not want to receive Communion, that is ok.
- Worshipping together in-person, and especially indoors, carries the risk of transmitting COVID. Please only attend worship today if you feel comfortable taking that level of risk.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to worship, we are glad you are here! Please take a moment to pray for our siblings in Christ who cannot be with us today.

GATHERING

We gather together as God's people.

INVOCATION

Pastor: We begin in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Let us now take a moment to confess our sins before God and one another so that we can worship God with a clean heart and a clear conscience.

Pastor: God of all ages, author of our stories,

All: You have never failed in your promises to us, but we often fail to be your faithful people. We waste our time and resources on things which do not give life. We doubt our abilities and hide our light away from the world. We flee from your call when it doesn't appeal to us. We've sinned and we are sorry. Forgive us and call us back to your sustaining love.

Pause for silence, reflection and confession.

Pastor: God hears us when we repent. God is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Hear and trust these words that I speak by the authority of Jesus Christ: you are forgiven because of God's great mercy and compassion.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious God,

You show abundant mercy even when we cannot see the purpose of it. Give us your heart for compassion and love for all of your children, regardless of who or where they may be, in the name of Jesus.

All: Amen.

THE WORD

We hear God's Word for our lives & offer response.

SCRIPTURE READING

The Book of Jonah

1 Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah son of Amittai, saying, ²“Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before me.” ³But Jonah set out to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid his fare and went on board, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the Lord.

⁴But the Lord hurled a great wind upon the sea, and such a mighty storm came upon the sea that the ship threatened to break up. ⁵Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried to his god. They threw the cargo that was in the ship into the sea, to lighten it for them. Jonah, meanwhile, had gone down into the hold of the ship and had lain down, and was fast asleep. ⁶The captain came and said to him, “What are you doing sound asleep? Get up, call on your god! Perhaps the god will spare us a thought so that we do not perish.” ⁷The sailors said to one another, “Come, let us cast lots, so that we may know on whose account this calamity has come upon us.” So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah. ⁸Then they said to him, “Tell us why this calamity has come upon us. What is your occupation? Where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?” ⁹“I am a Hebrew,” he replied. “I worship the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land.” ¹⁰Then the men were even more afraid, and said to him, “What is this that you have done!” For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them so.

¹¹Then they said to him, “What shall we do to you, that the sea may quiet down for us?” For the sea was growing more and more tempestuous. ¹²He said to them, “Pick me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you; for I know it is because of me that this great storm has come upon you.” ¹³Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring the ship back to land, but they could not, for the sea grew more and more stormy against them. ¹⁴Then they cried out to the Lord, “Please, O Lord, we pray, do not let us perish on account of this man’s life. Do not make us guilty of innocent blood; for you, O Lord, have

done as it pleased you.” ¹⁵So they picked Jonah up and threw him into the sea; and the sea ceased from its raging. ¹⁶Then the men feared the Lord even more, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows.

¹⁷But the Lord provided a large fish to swallow up Jonah; and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

2 Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the belly of the fish, ²saying,

"I called to the LORD out of my distress, and he answered me;
out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice.

³You cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood surrounded me;

all your waves and your billows passed over me.

⁴Then I said, 'I am driven away from your sight;
how shall I look again upon your holy temple?'

⁵The waters closed in over me; the deep surrounded me;
weeds were wrapped around my head ⁶at the roots of the mountains.

I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me forever;
yet you brought up my life from the Pit, O Lord my God.

⁷As my life was ebbing away, I remembered the Lord;
and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple.

⁸Those who worship vain idols forsake their true loyalty.

⁹But I with the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to you;
what I have vowed I will pay.

Deliverance belongs to the Lord!"

¹⁰Then the Lord spoke to the fish, and it spewed Jonah out upon the dry land.

3 The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²"Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." ³So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!"

⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

⁶When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. ⁷Then he had a proclamation made in Nineveh: “By the decree of the king and his nobles: No human being or animal, no herd or flock, shall taste anything. They shall not feed, nor shall they drink water.

⁸Human beings and animals shall be covered with sackcloth, and they shall cry mightily to God. All shall turn from their evil ways and from the violence that is in their hands. ⁹Who knows? God may relent and change his mind; he may turn from his fierce anger, so that we do not perish.”

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

4 But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the Lord and said, “O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” ⁴And the Lord said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” ⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶The Lord God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

⁹But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” ¹⁰Then the Lord said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

SERMON

Pastor Chad Langdon

PSALM RESPONSE

Pastor: O LORD, listen to our cry;

All: Give us understanding according to your Word.

Pastor: Listen to our prayers;

All: Rescue us as you promised.

Pastor: O LORD, we have longed for your salvation,

All: and your instruction is our delight. (*Psalm 119:169-170, 174*)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Pastor: ...Lord, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And also with you.

THE MEAL

We receive the Lord's Supper as nourishment for our lives.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, Almighty God, through our savior, Jesus Christ.

All: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. *(Luke 22:14-23)*

LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.** *(Luke 11:1-4)*

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Pastor: These are the gifts of God for you, the people of God. All of you here today are welcome to receive God's grace. Taste and see that the Lord is good. *(Psalm 34:8)*

DISTRIBUTION

Instructions: Remain where you are & please keep your mask on. The elements of Holy Communion will be brought to you. For safety reasons, we are currently using pre-packaged elements for Communion.

- *When the pastor comes to your area, extend your arms and cup your hands. The elements will be dropped into your hands.*
- *The package has 2 openings to peel back. Peeling the bottom cover releases the bread, and the top seal opens the wine. If you would prefer a grape juice or gluten-free option, please just let the pastor know either before worship or as you receive it.*
- *You may briefly remove your mask to eat & drink. Please put your mask back on immediately after finished.*
- *After eating and drinking, an assistant will collect the empty cup.*

If you do not wish to receive the Sacrament, simply cross your arms when the pastor comes near.

BLESSING

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

All: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Pastor: Let us pray. Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, great author and perfecter of our faith, for this gift of Communion and that we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses.

All: Keep our eyes fixed on you as the one who writes our stories, and help us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, so that we do not grow weary or lose heart. In your name, we pray. Amen. *(Hebrews 12:1-3)*

SENDING

Blessed & nourished by God, we are sent into the world to share God's love with others.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord look upon you with favor and grant you peace, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

(Numbers 6:22-27)

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace and serve the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

OFFERING

If you would like to give an offering today, there are 4 ways to do that:

1. Drop your money into the Offering Plate near the door as you arrive or as you leave.
2. Text GIVE to 833-613-0706 and follow the prompts.
3. Visit our website www.christ-lutheran.org and click the tab: Give Online.
4. Download the app called "Tithe.ly" and follow the instructions.



Thank you for your continued generosity during these times!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP SCHEDULE NOV. 8-29

Risk Level:

9:00	INDOOR	Communion, No Singing	HIGH
10:00	VIRTUAL	Facebook Live	NONE
11:00	INDOOR	Communion, No Singing	HIGH

SOME NOTES, PROCEDURES & PRECAUTIONS

- Indoor Worship will be limited by seating capacity (max. 45/service).
- All services will follow a similar liturgy, streamlined to limit our exposure & time together in-person. It will feel familiar as a Lutheran liturgy, but different than we are used to.
- The building will be cleaned between Indoor services.
- There will be no coffee/education hour or goodies.
- Worshipping together in-person, and especially indoors, carries the risk of transmitting COVID. Please only attend the service where you feel comfortable taking that level of risk.

COVID TESTING AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

On Monday, November 16, our building will be used again as a mobile COVID testing site for the Sedgwick County Department of Health. Please avoid coming to church that day (unless you need to get tested).

HUMAN NEEDS MINISTRY OF THE MONTH

This month we are supporting the food pantry at Dear Neighbor Ministries. Dear Neighbor Ministries is located in the Hilltop



neighborhood of Wichita and helps serve vulnerable populations in that area. They provide emergency and outreach assistance, a community food pantry, income tax assistance,

representative payee services, a community garden, and a peace garden. They are a ministry created and sponsored by the Congregation of the Sisters of Saint Joseph, and we've had several Christ Lutheran members volunteer for them throughout the years. If you would like more information, their website is: www.dearneighbor.org.

For their food pantry, we are collecting:

Ramen noodles	canned pork & beans
canned fruit	canned chicken or tuna
canned vegetables	canned soup
peanut butter	jelly
spaghetti sauce	shelf stable milk
toilet paper	shampoo
razors	toothpaste
tooth brushes	bath soap
laundry soap	dish soap
cleaning supplies.	

You can place these supplies in the bin near our front door. Thank you!

ANNUAL MEETING – November 22

Christ Lutheran's Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 22 at 4:00pm. Due to the pandemic, we are taking the extraordinary step of hosting our annual meeting online via Zoom. Hard copies of the 2020 Annual Report are available at the church welcome table & in the drop box outside the front door. Each CLC member will soon be receiving:

- *Via email:* a link to the Zoom meeting and CLC's 2020 Annual Report in electronic format. This will have reports from staff & council members, the agenda for the annual meeting, and our proposed budget for 2021. Please contact the office if you need help accessing Zoom.
- *Via mail:* A paper ballot for the selection of new council members and other positions. If you would like to vote for these positions secretly, simply mark your ballot and return it to the church by November 22. While voting for these positions is rarely contested (this year there is only 1 nominee per open position), returning the paper ballot does ensure that you can vote secretly or add a write-in candidate. A vote for each position will be taken during the Zoom meeting, but these "Zoom votes" will be impossible to be kept secret. The paper ballots that are returned will be counted alongside the votes that happen on Zoom.

WEDNESDAY ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

This Wednesday, November 11, we continue our Zoom Bible Study at 7:00pm. An email will go out to the entire congregation with the official invitation & a link. If you would like to join us but aren't a member of CLC, simply email Pastor Chad and he'll get you an invite. This Wednesday we will be taking a look at Isaiah 6:1-8 and Jeremiah chapter 31 & 36. We'd love to have you join us for this conversation!

UPDATE FROM FAMILY PROMISE

If you are a Family Promise volunteer, it is important that you participate in a training session every year. This year, they are offering the volunteer training online, and it takes about an hour or so. The next two training opportunities are:

Tuesday, November 17 @ 11am

Thursday, December 17 @ 6:30pm

To register for one of these sessions, please email Adam at adam@familypromisewichita.org and also let Elaine Miller know that you are participating.

Family Promise has had a lot of people apply to use their services recently, so we can anticipate that Christ Lutheran will need a full complement of volunteers for next year. We're always looking for new folks who want to help by cooking meals, driving families to & from the day center, being an evening volunteer, or sleeping at church as an overnight volunteer. Please contact Elaine if you're interested in helping:

millerelaine72@gmail.com.



Stories ^{that}
SHAPE US

God's Story @ Home

For the week of November 8, 2020

PRAYING GOD'S STORY

Mealtime Prayer: From the fish of the sea to the grains of wheat, thank you, God, for everything that is good to eat. With our bellies fed and hearts warmed, be with us God, through life's storms. Amen.

READING GOD'S STORY

*As you read each day, ask yourself: **What are God and the people doing in this story?***

Sunday	Jonah 1:1-17; 3:1-10 [4:1-11] Jonah and the Big Fish
Monday	Jonah 1 Jonah Tries to Run from God
Tuesday	Jonah 3 Conversion of Nineveh
Wed.	Jonah 4 Jonah's Anger
Thurs.	Exodus 33:7-23 Moses Sees God
Friday	Exodus 40:18-34 Moses Sets Up the Tabernacle
Saturday	Exodus 40:34-38 The Glory of the Lord
Sunday	Isaiah 6:1-8 A Vision of God in the Temple

CONTEMPLATING OR DISCUSSING GOD'S STORY

- ? **Highs and Lows:** What is one thing that you were happy not to miss today? What is one thing that made you want to run away?
- ? **Thinking About This Week's Story:** God's message to the people of Nineveh was to repent, or to turn away from their path and walk down God's. What was something you did today when you ought to have said sorry? Did you?
- ? **Getting Ready for Next Week's Story:** The prophet Isaiah encounters God in the temple. Most of the time we do not see God in such a dramatic way. We can often see God in beautiful things and acts of love, kindness, and justice. What did you experience today where you might have seen a glimpse of God?

LIVING GOD'S STORY

What is something you can do to show other people God's love? Support each other and do it.