

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
1222 Vocke Road, LaVale, Maryland
Email: christlutheran@atlanticbbn.net
New website: CLCLaVale.org.

Wednesday Lenten Service (In-Person & 6:30pm Zoom)

April 2, 2025 – 12:00 Noon & 6:30pm

*** Call to Worship**

P: There is something more,

C: Or something missing,

P: That sends us searching in the dark,

C: Looking for answers,

P: Risking a question.

C: We are drawn here

P: Because God touched us,

C: Gave us hope,

P: Whispered our name.

C: Here in this place,

P: We journey toward grace

C: And know the "something more"

P: Is revealed in the love of Jesus' face.

*** Gathering Hymn 563**

“O Light Whose Splendor Thrills”

*** Greeting**

☞ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

☞ And also with you.

*** The Prayer of the Day**

Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Reading: *Philippians 3:4b-14*

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. Word of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Homily

Pastor Daniel Swanson

*** Prayers of the People**

*** Words of Institution**

*** The Lord's Prayer**

**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.**

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

*** POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C: Amen.

*** Blessing**

P: God our tender parent, God the crucified one, God the reconciling Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

*** Sending Hymn 564**

"God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven"

*** Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

C: Thanks be to God.

Wednesdays of Lent

12-Noon *followed by lunch (Noon only) April 2, 9!*

(Please sign-up to donate soup or desserts on round table in the main narthex)

6:30 pm

Church Council has designated that all Lenten/Easter offerings go to Global Refuge (formerly Lutheran Immigration Services)

Would you like to go to Delaware-Maryland Synod Assembly? It will be held Friday, May 30, through Saturday, May 31, 2025 at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, 21 Carrol Street, Westminster, MD. If you are interested in being one of our delegates, please let Pastor Daniel know before April 6th.

We need to hold a brief congregational meeting on April 6th following worship to clarify the way that we will pay for our new roof. Please stay for this brief meeting. Roofers are to be starting work soon.

The Joy Group will get together on Monday Apr. 7, 2025 at noon at the church.

Brown bag optional!



Garden News!

The new garden season is beginning! Rain tanks are connected, the drip system is going in, the orchard and berries have been pruned, we are ready for planting! We have three new members from the community and enrollment is still open!

We are partnering with the UMD Extension and Master Gardeners to host gardening classes each first Saturday of the month through the season as part of our usual garden workdays. On **March 29** we participated in the **Seed Swap** program at **City Place in Frostburg**. Our **first meeting** will be **April 5th at 10:00**. **Class begins at 11:00**, topic: **Orchard and Berry Care**. All flyers are available in the narthex.

Your Social Ministry team is preparing to distribute Easter food baskets to 25 or more needy households in our area. We'll begin the collection of cash and food items on Ash Wednesday, March 5th, and will conclude when we assemble the food baskets on Palm Sunday, April 13th.

Our plan is to use cash donations to purchase grocery store gift cards (for a main course like ham or turkey) and we're also hoping for donations of non-perishable items that we're collecting on a table in the Narthex (under the bulletin board). ***Sign-up sheets are present for each of the requested non-perishable items, which need to be brought to church no later than Sunday, April 13th.*** Cash donations can be sent to the office marked "Easter basket." A donation of \$45 would cover the cost of a whole basket, but cash donations in any amount are appreciated.

If you have any questions, or would like to help us shop for groceries and assemble the food baskets, please reach out to Ruth Chiarenza at 301-729-5070. Thanks for your support of this ministry!

Yard Sale Weeks – week of June 22 (sales on June 27 & 28), week of June 29 (sale on July 5), *If needed*, week of July 6. **We need stuff!!!! Start gathering.** We do have limited space if you need to bring early. See Shirley.

Thanks to everyone who has kept the donations coming for the LaVale Food Pantry! For the month of April, we'd like to encourage you to donate applesauce! Any size or variety would be appreciated. You are still welcome to donate any shelf-stable, unopened and unexpired food items.

Allegany County Habitat for Humanity's annual Spring Fling will be held Tuesday, April 29 at 1812 Brewery beginning at 6:00 p.m. Music will be provided by Ken Nolan and catering by Lost Mountain BBQ. Tickets are \$25 each and are available from Rae Ann. All proceeds will go toward building our next home this year in South Cumberland.



IF YOU WISH TO HELP DECORATE THE SANCTUARY WITH FLOWERS FOR EASTER, please fill out this sheet and return with your payment.

Please print names exactly as you wish them to appear in the bulletin. Please make checks payable to Christ Lutheran Church; place payment and this form in envelope. You may place the envelope in the offering plate or bring it to the Church Office. DEADLINE FOR ORDERS is Thursday, April 6th.

Flowers will be placed in the Sanctuary for the Easter Worship Services. You may pick-up your flowers to take home after the 10:00 Service on Easter Sunday, April 20th

Lilies	Tulips
\$18.00_____	\$19.00_____

To the Glory of God, in Memory of, or in Honor of:

By:_____