

Christ Lutheran Church
1222 Vocke Road, LaVale, MD. 21502-7519
Telephone 301-729-1010
Website: CLCLaVale.org
E-Mail: christlutheran@atlanticbbn.net

Blessing Sunday

November 9, 2025

THE WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:00 AM In-Person & Zoom

We worship on the first day of the week because Jesus was raised on that day. Every Sunday is a little Easter.. Live it up this Lord's day. Our God is the God of the living.

WELCOME

Announcements & Prelude

*** A Call to Worship**

L: Come into God's presence with thankful hearts.

C: We come to God with thankfulness and gratitude.

L: Come and sing the praises of our Creator.

C: Our hearts are full of song for God's goodness.

L: Let us praise the God who supplies all our needs.

C: We join in praise for the One who satisfies our hearts.

*** Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Faithful God,

**C: you have shown us the ways of your heart,
yet we stray from your paths.**

**We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression
and do not embrace the freedom
of your faithful promises.**

We ignore our neighbors.

We exploit the earth.

**We reject your abundance,
trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love.**

**Repair our relationships,
restore what we have broken,
renew our hearts,
and bring us to new life. Amen.**

P: Hear the good news:

God the Faithful One loves you,

✠ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven,

and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.

C: Amen.

* **Gathering Hymn 1097 ACS** (Bulletin Page 13)

“Ten Thousand Reasons”

* Greeting

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

C: And also with you.

* Gloria

(Setting 6 – Page 167)

Refrain S 167

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace
to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the
high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa-ther,
we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace
to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the
high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:



have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right



hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the



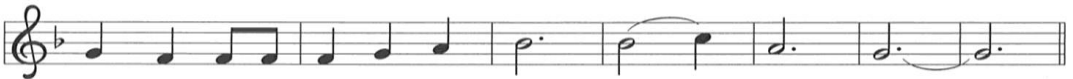
high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a -



lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.

Final refrain



Glo - ry to God in the high - est.



A - men, a - - - men.

* Prayer of the Day

Almighty God our Father, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Lesson: *Isaiah 12:2-6*

² Surely God is my salvation;

I will trust and will not be afraid,
for the LORD is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.”

³ With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴ And you will say on that day:

“Give thanks to the LORD;
call on his name;
make known his deeds among the nations;
proclaim that his name is exalted.

⁵ Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be known in all the earth.

⁶ Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody: *Psalms 147:1-8*

¹ Praise the LORD!

How good it is to sing praises to our God,
for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.

² **The LORD builds up Jerusalem;
he gathers the outcasts of Israel.**

³ He heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.

**⁴ He determines the number of the stars;
he gives to all of them their names.**

⁵ Great is our Lord and abundant in power;
his understanding is beyond measure.

**⁶ The LORD lifts up the downtrodden;
he casts the wicked to the ground.**

⁷ Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;
make melody to our God on the lyre.

**⁸ He covers the heavens with clouds,
prepares rain for the earth,
makes grass grow on the hills.**

Second Lesson: *1 John 3:1-3*

¹ See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ² Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³ And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

* Gospel Acclamation

(Setting 6 – Page 171)

S 171a



P: The Holy Gospel according to John the 21st chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

The Holy Gospel: *John 21:1-13*

¹ After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he showed himself in this way. ² Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³ Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴ Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach, but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." ⁶ He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he had taken it off, and jumped into the sea. ⁸ But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

⁹ When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them, and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them and did the same with the fish.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Daniel Swanson

Hymn 493

“Taste and See”

* Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

The Prayer of the Church

* Sharing of the Peace of the Lord

We Offer Our Gifts to the Lord

Organ Voluntary

Anthem

Chancel Choir

* Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

* The Offertory

Hymn 674

“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

**Let us talents and tongues employ,
reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken, the wine is poured,
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.**

Refrain

*Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
pass the Word around: loaves abound!
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
pass the Word around: loaves abound!*

**Christ is able to make us one,
at the table he sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless,
love in word and in deed express. *Refrain***

**Jesus calls us in, sends us out
bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share:
God (Immanuel) ev'rywhere! *Refrain***

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Text © 1975 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

Used by permission.

* Offertory Prayer

L: God of healing and hope,
you bless those who are hungry,
promising to fill them with good things.
Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts.
Nourish us with the abundance of your feast
and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior,
now and forever. **Amen.**

* The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them to the Lord.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.
P: It is indeed rightand join their unending hymn:

(Holy, Holy Holy)

(Setting 6 – Page 173)

S 173

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow-er and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

* The 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.

* P: There is a place for you at the table of God.

Come, receive the food that does not perish,
a taste of life eternal.

C: Amen. Thanks be to God.

“Lamb of God”

Chancel Choir

Words and Music - Rob Temple

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.

* The Prayer after Communion

L: God of field and flower, wheat and grape,
you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name.

C: Amen

* Blessing

P: The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you,
God the Son save you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work
ahead.

The holy Trinity bless you † and grant you a faithful and courageous
heart now and forever.

C: Amen.

* **Sending Hymn 543**

“Go, My Children With My Blessing”

* Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Share the harvest.

C: Thanks be to God.

* Postlude

*In Bread and Wine our Lord Jesus meets us and we receive His Body and Blood given and shed
for our forgiveness. It is a meal of love, forgiveness and renewal. If you are visiting with us
today and are a baptized Christian and desire to commune, please do come to the table of the
Lord. Children and youth who have not received instruction in the meaning of the Sacrament are
cordially invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Please come toward as directed by ushers
by the center aisle and return by the side aisles.*

*The Altar Flowers and Bulletins have been given to the glory of God in honor of Pam
Mulligan's birthday (Nov 6) by Debbie Fornwalt.*

*The Communion Bread & Wine have been given to the glory of God in memory of my
son, James DeMonbrun by Joyce.*

*The November Newsletter has been given to the glory of God in memory of Garrett
and in memory of Merle's and my anniversary by Sally Buser.*

"Ten Thousand Reasons" - ACS 1097

Refrain

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;

wor-ship his ho - ly name. Sing like nev - er be - fore,

O my soul; I'll wor - ship your ho - ly name.

1 The sun comes up, it's a new day dawn-ing;
2 You're rich in love, and you're slow to an - ger. Your
3 And on that day when my strength is fail - ing, the

. . . it's time to sing your song a - gain. What - ev - er may
name . . . is . . . great, and your heart is kind. For all . . . your
end . . . draws near, and my time has come; . . . still, my

pass, and what - ev - er lies be - fore me, let me be
good - ness, I will keep . . on . . sing - ing - ten thou - sand
soul will sing your praise un - end - ing - ten thou - sand

Refrain

sing - ing when the eve - ning comes.
rea - sons for my heart to find.
years and then for - ev - er - more!

Lectors for our Services

This Sunday, November 9 – Jack Murray

Ushers: Ken Wendell, Fred Powell

Wednesday, November 12 – Debbie Fornwalt

Next Sunday, November 16 – Sally Buser

Organist: Rae Ann Smith

Next Wednesday, November 19 – Jeff Smith

A/V – Steve, Dave, Mark, Joyce

New Bible Studies - We are now studying women of the Bible on **Sunday mornings, 11:30am** and the God and Suffering on **Thursday mornings at 10:30am**. This is also on Zoom! Please come join us!

This week –

This Sunday – Thanksgiving & Blessing Service at 10:00am followed by Listening Circle

Monday – Working of Reach Meal - chopping Council – 6:30pm

Tuesday – Working on Reach Meal

Wednesday – Service – 6:30pm

Chancel Choir rehearsal – 7:30pm

Thursday – Bible Study – 10:30am “God’s Suffering”

Finance Committee – 2:30pm

Friday – Prep. For Reach Meal

Diane’s Music classes 10:00am, Lady Birds – 11:00am

Saturday – Prep and serve our Thanksgiving Community Meal 3-5:00pm

Next Sunday – Worship at 10:00am followed by Adult SCS

The Yearly EMR (Every Member Response) Campaign!! The Mission and Generosity Committee has prepared the EMR line-up of events. Blue Bags with names attached are in the Narthex with all that you will need to participate. Please pick up your bag. Also 2026 Envelopes are here.

Listening Circle – as a continuation of our *Every Member Response* fall campaign, the Mission and Generosity Committee is scheduling a **Listening Circle after worship on TODAY, November 9th**. The topic, “*How We Imagine God*” will allow us to share our personal concept and experience of the presence of God in our life. Many of us have found that the sharing that occurs during the Listening Circle is profound and comforting. Please join us for this spiritual experience.

It is that time of the year again; all committee budgets need to be to Ed Havens on or before November 16th. Thanks.

Noisy Offering Scheduled – the Mission and Generosity Committee has decided that a Noisy Offering will be held on Sunday, November 23d. The funds will be sent to the Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD) and earmarked for flood disaster relief in Allegany and Garrett Counties. Please begin to save your change so our offering will be VERY NOISY!! Thanks!

God's Work – Our Hands – we still have a few boxes to fill with items that continue to be needed in the George's Creek Flood Recovery Effort. In addition to the cleaning supplies, you may want to include underwear items and socks. A teacher at George's Creek Elementary School has told me that children sometimes come to school in need of such items. Another option is a monetary donation placed in an envelope noted "God's Work-Our Hands". Thank you for your willingness to help those in our community who continue to recover from the flood.

It is QUICKLY nearing Thanksgiving time of year. This year Social Ministry will once again be depending upon the generosity of our congregational family to help us fill baskets, each containing nonperishable goods and a supermarket gift card valued at \$35 for potential recipients who notify our church of their need. The gift card will afford the recipients the opportunity to purchase a turkey and/or fresh goods to prepare a hearty Thanksgiving meal. ***Several sign-up sheets for your intended donation(s) of specific items are located on a table in the narthex. All items should be brought to the church on or before Sunday, November 16, 2025.*** Recipients will pick up baskets on Tuesday, November 18 between the hours of 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM. We thank you in advance for everything/anything that you can do to continue our characteristic community care. Social Ministry Committee

United Workers (working with the Poor People's Campaign) are planning a *fundraiser canning event at Christ Lutheran on November 22* to support the food drop at St. John's Lutheran Church. Do you have any canning supplies you could donate? Do you have any expertise (or chopping skills) you would like to share? or gain? Any help is appreciated! *Janet Lawler-Heavner 301-514-5551*



Garden News!

The garden has been put to bed for the winter. As we look back over this planting season there is much to celebrate. We had a combination of very committed community members, church members and organizations who made our efforts a success. Some raised food for their own use, some provided community service and education, and others provided food for the LaVale United Methodist Church Food Pantry (over 667 pounds of fresh vegetables). The gardening classes provided by the University of MD Extension were very well attended. God has truly blessed! Thank you for your support!

Get out your calendars and mark the dates!!! On Friday, December 5th you are invited to attend an Advent Craft night. There will be crafts for all ages, and in the near future we will share what those crafts are. We have elves behind the scenes make some so you can see what will be available. To help offset the cost of materials, if you are able, we will be asking for five dollars (\$5.00) per family. The evening would not be complete without snacks so please bring something to share.

THEN...

On Sunday, December 7th immediately following the service you are invited to stay for a light lunch and Hanging of the Greens. We will be decorating the Christmas tree, the sanctuary and the narthex. During lunch you will be invited to participate in some Christmas trivia and as we decorate the building will be filled with the music of the season. Please join your fellow congregation members as we celebrate the season.

THEN...

On Sunday, December 14th immediately following the service you are invited to stay for a light lunch and a PLAY around 12:30pm

LAST WEEK'S REPORT – November 2, 2025

Attendance In-Person 10:00am = 52
 Zoom 10:00am = 14
 Wed. Nov 5 In-Person 6:30pm = 11
 Zoom 6:30pm = 5

Adult SCS – 8
 Nov 6 Thurs. Bible Study – cancelled

BUDGET OFFERINGS FOR 2025

Received = 5,543.00
 Needed weekly = 4,044.04
 1,498.96

BUDGETED ACCOUNTS – JAN-OCT 2025

Actual Income = \$166,954.63
 Actual Expenses = (176,504.53)
 (\$ 9,549.90)



Please join us for a

Thanksgiving

INTERFAITH SERVICE



November | 25 | 7:00 pm

Hosted by LaVale United Methodist Church
at 565 National Highway
LaVale, MD

Please bring a side dish or dessert to
share at the reception that will follow

The labyrinth

Often, in this time of year, whether walking or driving outside, don't you suddenly notice a "cloud" of birds, swooping overhead, they swiftly change course, instantly rearranging their formation, while they look a shimmering silver as the light falls differently on them. They never lose their speed as they change all at once again, looking dark now against the blue sky. winging and maneuvering the winds they encounter, seeming certain of the direction they are going to faraway places, they may never have been before.

Did you hear the honking of the Canadian geese, and see them flying overhead forming in the familiar V- shape? They also seem so sure of where they are going, encouraging each other with a honk, while they take turns leading their formation.

Have you seen a school of small fish in a creek, river, or lake, as they swim in formation? First, they form a rectangle, swimming in one direction, then in a flash, they turn and swim in the opposite directions and within another flash, they form a circle and rotate around an invisible center, each time forming themselves anew in coordinated patterns.

There are invisible patterns all through nature imprinted in each species, such as: in migrating whales; bears going for hibernation; baby turtles breaking out of their eggshells in the sand, to crawl across the beach to enter the ocean for their life's journey; the Monarch butterfly's long flight to warmer climates; the salmon's return to their birthplace to spawn, birds building intricate nests, and caring for their young...

Patterns are woven mysteriously into the web of Creation. "So too, is the longing of the human heart, to love and to nurture, to create and to discover the mystery we are in, that lives within us," (from Lauren Artress, "Walking a Sacred Path, Rediscovering the Labyrinth").

So, I believe imprinted in each human life too is a longing to seek God, over and over again, as we learn to fly on wings of faith, seeking deepening meaning, and inner peace, as we experience beauty and pain in this complex world. We also "fly" in community, encouraging each other...

One of many ways to seek God, and to find inner peace, has been through walking in meditation on the labyrinth. Labyrinths have been known for over 4,000 years, and can be found around the world. It has been an ancient symbol for the Holy in all of Creation. We do not know the origin of its design, which is a large complex spiral circle.

Entering the labyrinth, the path spirals clockwise to the center, while in prayer or meditation we can carry questions, concerns, or simply listen intently to nature sounds of bird, wind, branches. Walking out of the center, the path winds counterclockwise and ushers us back into the world, perhaps a little more strengthened in purpose, or in peace.

There are many, many ways to walk the labyrinth. Next time I will tell you a little more about symbolic meanings of the labyrinth which developed over the ages. Lydia Martin

PRAYER LIST FOR NOVEMBER 9, 2025

PRAYER RECIPIENT - MEMBERS

Anna Bruck
Claudia Knotts
Jane Miller
Jack Zealand
Ed Havens
Bill & MarySue Crawford
Gail Dawson
Mitzie & Jerry Robinette
Patty Wilson
Clem Dawson
Dave & Lisa Ahern
Kim Shoemaker
Fay Crawford
David LaBuda
Rosey & Becky McIntyre
Jonathan and Danielle Ahern
Tammy Faulkner
Pam & Dave Judy
David Tibbetts
Joyce DeMonbrun
Kathy Powell
Sharon McKenzie
Mary Lou Rowles
Donna Yaider
Laura Murray

PRAYER RECIPIENT

Christina Puffinburger
Brad & Gregg Dawson, Stephen Overtoom
Charles Johnson, Barbara Williams
Joe Kunsman, Linda Nines, Ellen Hill
Brittney Meyers, Talot Omar, Terry Baker
Nathan Winters
Charlotte & Ed Troutman, Arlene Simmons. Amy, Jacie Fairall
Carl Chiarenza, Karen Mackert
Elise & Henry Jack Balber
Cheryl Trusler
Cheri Bielen
Baby Whetzel, Kevin Mistretta, Carolyn Farr, Kendra Morriss, Paula Rose
Dan Moore, Graham Tower, Lisa Storm, Jaime Pletcher, Karen Ford
Richard Clark, Zachary Sutterfield, Alexis Smith
Diane Davis, Nancy Smith, James Flynn
Joy Kroeger-Mappes Carmen and Lance Jackson
Bob Aman, Susie Spiker, Joan Paul
Gretchen Burke
Sally, Roger, James Tibbetts
Andy Cocco
Marie Turnbull, Steven Suzindlak, Taylor Neumann
Dan Carr, Matt Doman
Michele Jones, Lois Shunk
Don Ringer, Stephanie Georgiane
Mary Lou Dorsey
Vic Werner
Belinda Keller
Madeline Lopes
Barbara Blough
Galen Dean Krepps
Jared McGensie, Chris Twigg
Breanna Brown
Kamryn Rice
Candy Heverly

Requested by

Elwood & Janet Glass
 Gail Dawson
 Sharon M
 Mitzie & Jerry
 Mitzie & Jerry
 Dianne Short
 Barb Simmons
 Paul & Ruth C
 Jack Zealand
 Joyce D
 Jane Miller
 Diane
 Diane K
 Anne DeV Vaughn
 Antoinette Royster
 Antoinette Royster
 Shirley & Jim Smith
 Val & Gary Llewellyn
 Dave Tibbetts
 John Cocco
 Lita Havens
 Steven Hansrote
 Sherry T
 Kristan Fazenbaker
 Trina Firey
 Barbara Martin
 Linda McCagh
 Al James
 Janice & Dave LaBuda
 Lisa Ahern
 Patty Wilson and Rosey
 Debbie Fornwalt
 Corinna Hilderbrand
 Charlotte Luy

Please keep us updated

- all people affected by the wildfires and other disasters
- all people of the Ukraine and all affected by the war
- all elected officials
- those who serve in our nation's armed forces including Rick Rounds, Tom Forrest



Blessing Sunday
November 9, 2025