

# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

## WEST COBB

Welcoming people to feel God's love and grace

176 West Sandtown Road  
Marietta, GA 30064  
(770) 424-2850  
[clcwestcobb.org](http://clcwestcobb.org)

**March 17, 2024**  
**10:30 Traditional Worship Service**

*And I, when I am lifted up from the  
earth, will draw all people to myself.*

John 12:32 (KJV)



Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church of West Cobb. The third covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the central one of Israel's history: the gift of the law to those God freed from slavery. The commandments begin with the statement that because God alone has freed us from the powers that oppressed us, we are to let nothing else claim first place in our lives. When Jesus throws the merchants out of the temple, he is defending the worship of God alone and rejecting the ways commerce and profit-making can become our gods. The Ten Commandments are essential to our baptismal call: centered first in God's liberating love, we strive to live out justice and mercy in our communities and the world.

Visiting today? Welcome. Please complete the visitor card found in the pew (include your email to sign up for our weekly email announcements), place in the collection plate.

**Just a reminder to wear your name tags for our visitors to see who you are!**

**CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS: Please see on the bulletin board in hallway**

**Upcoming Dates:**

<b>Today March 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Contemplative Prayer Class 10:30am Traditional Worship Service 11:30am Choir Rehearsal</b>
<b>Wed. March 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10:00am Bible Study 5:30pm Lenten Soup Supper 6:30pm Lenten Worship Service ( Last soup supper)</b>
<b>Sun. March 24<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday</b>	<b>9:30am Easter Egg Hunt during Sunday School 9:30am Contemplative Prayer Class 10:30am Jazz Worship Service - Palm Sunday 1st Communion Presentation 11:30am Choir Rehearsal</b>
<b>Wed. March 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>No Bible Study</b>
<b>Thurs. March 28<sup>th</sup> Maundy Thurs.</b>	<b>No Bible Study @ 10:00am 6:30pm Maundy Thursday Worship Service</b>

**Fri. March 29th**      **12:00pm Good Friday Worship Service**  
**Good Friday**      **7:00 pm Worship Service**

**Sun. March 31st**      **7:00am - Easter Sunrise Service @ Kennesaw Mem. Park**  
**Easter Sunday**      **8:45am - Jazz Worship Service**  
                              **9:45am Easter Breakfast**  
                              **11:00am - Traditional Worship Service**

**Mon. April 1<sup>st</sup>**      **CLC Office will be closed**

**Readings for next week March 24<sup>th</sup> (Palm Sunday) – Isaiah 50:4-9a,  
Psalm 31:9-16, Philippians 2:5-11, Mark 14:1 – 15:47**

**P = Pastor C = Congregation; \*Those who are able, please stand;**

**\*Stand/Kneel**



**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**MEDITATION MOMENT**

**\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**P:** Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who writes the law on our hearts,  
who draws all people together through Jesus.

**Amen.**

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God  
and of one another.

Holy God,

**C: we confess that we are caught in snares of sin  
and cannot break free.**

**We hoard resources while our neighbors  
are hungry and cold.**

**We speak in ways that silence others.**

**We are silent when we should speak up.**

**We keep score in our hearts.**

**We let hurts grow into hatred.**

**For all these things and for sins only you know,  
forgive us, Lord.**

**Amen.**

P: Here is a flood of grace:  
 Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us,  
 breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs,  
 and restores the promise of life through ✝ Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN:

ELW 532

### Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness  
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who  
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the  
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,  
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,  
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.  
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.  
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.  
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath - er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in, the  
 Gath - er us in, the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in, the  
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the  
 Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,  
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,  
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion  
 make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.  
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.  
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.  
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

## APOSTOLIC GREETING:

**L:** 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.

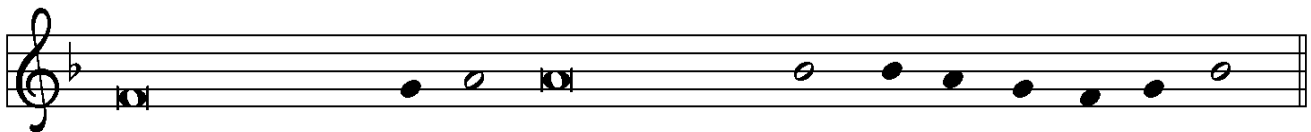
## KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



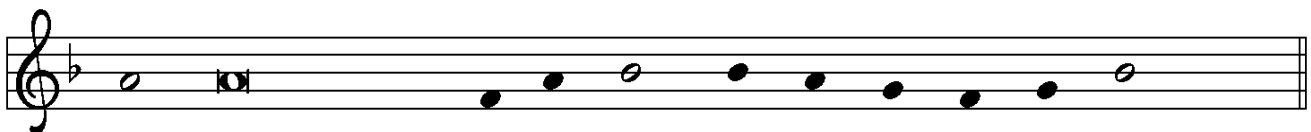
For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



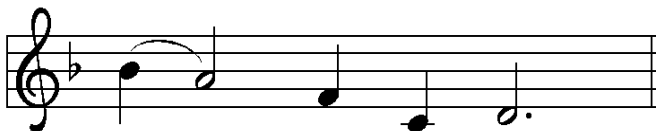
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of



God, and for the uni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and

praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gracious Lord.

A - men.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY:

O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

**Maxine Langford**

### FIRST READING

**Jeremiah 31:31-34**

<sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

**L: This is the Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 51:1-12

<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

<sup>2</sup>**Wash me through and through from my wickedness,  
and cleanse me from my sin.**

<sup>3</sup>For I know my offenses,  
and my sin is ever before me.

<sup>4</sup>**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;  
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.**

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,  
a sinner from my mother's womb.

<sup>6</sup>**Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,  
and would have me know wisdom deep within.**

<sup>7</sup>Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

<sup>8</sup>**Let me hear joy and gladness;  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.**

<sup>9</sup>Hide your face from my sins,  
and blot out all my wickedness.

<sup>10</sup>**Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.**

<sup>11</sup>Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

<sup>12</sup>**Restore to me the joy of your salvation  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.**

## SECOND READING: Hebrews 5:5-10

<sup>5</sup>Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son, today I have begotten you”;

<sup>6</sup>as he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever,  
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

<sup>7</sup>In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. <sup>8</sup>Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; <sup>9</sup>and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, <sup>10</sup>having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

**L: This is the Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

## Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.



When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,



warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950

Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson

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**P: The Holy gospel according to John: C: Glory to you, O Lord**

**GOSPEL:**

**John 12:20-33**

<sup>20</sup>Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. <sup>21</sup>They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” <sup>22</sup>Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. <sup>23</sup>Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup>Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

<sup>25</sup>Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

<sup>27</sup>“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” <sup>29</sup>The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” <sup>30</sup>Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. <sup>31</sup>Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” <sup>33</sup>He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

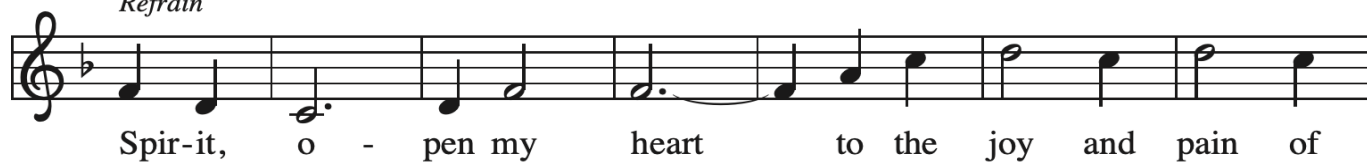
**P: This is the Gospel of the Lord: C: Praise to you, O Christ**

**MESSAGE OF GOOD NEWS:**

**Rev. Dr. Connie Bramlett**

# Spirit, Open My Heart

*Refrain*



- 1 God, re - place my ston - y heart with a heart that's
- 2 Write your love up - on my heart as my law, my
- 3 May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of



kind and ten - der. All my cold - ness and  
goal, my sto - ry. In each thought, word, and  
friend and neigh - bor. As I live from day to

*Refrain*



fear to your grace I now sur - ren - der.  
deed, may my liv - ing bring you glo - ry.  
day, love will be my fin - est la - bor.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: WILD MOUNTAIN THYME, Irish melody; adapt. Alfred V. Fedak, b. 1953

Text © 1996 Pilgrim Press. All rights reserved.

Music © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

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### **\*NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,\*  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### **\*Prayers of Intercession**

P: Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

God of the covenant, through the church you draw us into community. We give thanks for the means of grace around which we gather. Inspire writers, musicians, and artists whose creative gifts adorn our worship. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

God of all that exists, you lavish the earth with extravagant beauty. Preserve the rich and complex diversity of living things. Support local, national, and international efforts to protect the environment for future generations. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

God of the nations, you desire peace and plenty for all people. Defend those who challenge oppression and expose corruption. Support advocates for human rights, social justice, and the welfare of children. We pray for our missionary partners Julia & Vincent Leiyooole in Kenya and ILAG in Guatemala and for the Ministry of Pastor Michael Schulte of the Collective in Atlanta, that together we press on toward the goal of your heavenly call in Jesus. Hear us O God  
**Your mercy is great**

God of good will, you restore what is broken. We pray for any experiencing estrangement, conflict, or abuse in families and intimate relationships. Protect and comfort all who are vulnerable, especially those living in institutions. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

God of every time and place, you are with us. Support ministries of prayer and presence in this congregation. Move us to reach out to any who are homebound, lonely, grieving, in treatment, or ill. (*especially* David and Lonni Connelly, Beverly Haggard, Ralph & Pat Ehrich, Sharon Koberg, Betty Spies, Betty Kaminsky, Joyce Jeffers, Shirley Olin, Donna Flugstad, Artie Kappel, Dominic Olin, Ian and Chris Metcalfe, Helena Rockenstein, Lola-Mae, Glenn McKinney), and those who are in our hearts and minds, who we name silently or aloud. Be their rest and comfort. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

God of promise, we give thanks for the saints whose faith inspires us (*especially Patrick, missionary to Ireland, whom we commemorate today*). Grant us faith to trust in your everlasting love. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

\*SHARING OF PEACE – The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you always.

*(Please share a sign of peace with those around you and digitally with those who can't physically be here.)*

\*RECEPTION OF THE OFFERING:

We greatly appreciate your gifts that allow us to support our ministry at Christ Lutheran Church. You may place your offering in the collection plate, give online or scan this QR code.



\*OFFERTORY SONG:

ELW 186

Create in Me a Clean Heart  
*Offering Song*

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take  
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER:**

P: Let us pray.

**C:** Jesus, you are the bread of life  
and the host of this meal.

Bless these gifts that we have gathered,  
that all people may know your goodness.

Feed us not only with this holy food  
but with hunger for justice and peace.

We pray this in your name.

Amen.

**\*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 our thanks and praise.**

**PREFACE FOR THE SEASON**

**HYMN OF PRAISE**

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.

## 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.

### \*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!  
**Thanks be to God.**

### Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -

way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## Here Is Bread for the Hungry Soul

Here is bread for the hun - gry soul. Here is

wine for the thirst-y heart. Here is for - give-ness full and

free, here at the ta - ble of the Lord.

*Repeat as desired* *Final*

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The final measure of the third staff includes a repeat sign and a final measure, both labeled with text boxes: 'Repeat as desired' and 'Final'.

Text: Mary Kay Beall

Music: John Carter

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# COMMUNION HYMN 2:

ELW 487

## What Feast of Love



- 1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban-quet come from heav - en?
- 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
- 3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim-son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last-ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?  
 What hope of ev - er - last-ing life, what won-drous word is giv - en?  
 What stream of ev - er - last-ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.  
 This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.  
 This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!  
 Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!  
 Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

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## **COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

*We invite all communicants of all Christian churches to receive Holy Communion today. We believe that Christ instituted this sacrament in which we are given Christ's body and blood. We believe Christ is truly present and that we receive forgiveness, life, and salvation. If you would like communion brought to you in your pew, please inform an usher. We will serve communion at the rail. Please follow the directions of the ushers and pastor. Children who have not received First Communion training are welcome to come forward with hands folded to receive a blessing.*

### **\*TABLE BLESSING:**

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

### **\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P: Generous God,  
at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.  
As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,  
now make us one loaf to feed the world;  
in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.  
**Amen.**

### **\*BLESSING**

Beloved,  
we are God's own people,  
holy, washed, renewed.  
God bless you and keep you,  
shower you with mercy,  
fill you with courage,  
and ✠ give you peace.  
**Amen.**

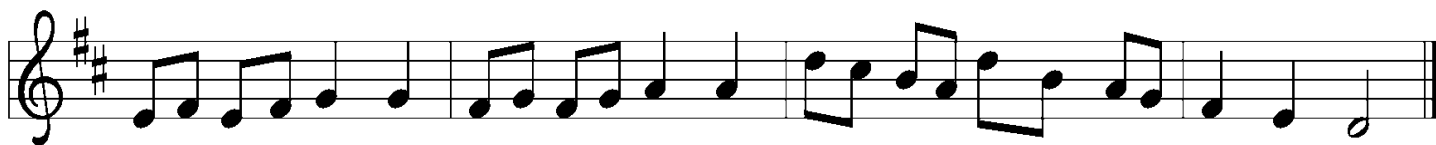
## Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing



1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless-ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
 2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound.  
 3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling pil - grim way,



let us each, your love pos - sess-ing, tri - umph in re - deem-ing grace.  
 May the fruits of your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound.  
 let no fear of death ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - bey.



Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.  
 Ev - er faith - ful, ev - er faith - ful to your truth may we be found.  
 May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end - less day.

Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, sts. 1–2, alt.; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 3, alt.

Music: SICILIAN MARINERS, Sicilian, 18th cent.

**DISMISSAL:** Go in peace. Share your bread. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Traditional Worship Servants for Sunday, March 17, 2024**

**10:30am**

<b>Greeter:</b>	Clint Carbon
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Sue Burkhart
<b>Lector:</b>	Lynette Kennings
<b>Ushers:</b>	Sharon Hallberg & Rita Buehner
<b>Communion Asst.:</b>	Sue Burkhart & Cassandra Long
<b>Children Sermon:</b>	Maxine Langford
<b>Acolyte &amp; Crucifer:</b>	
<b>Cantor:</b>	Rich Hallberg
<b>Counters:</b>	Don Jordan & Mike Dickens

### **STAFF**

Members of Christ Lutheran Church

Rev. Dr. Connie Bramlett (pastorbramlettclc@gmail.com; cell: 920-205-2649 Pastor

Cindy Vining (clcwestcobb@gmail.com)

Ben Lakly

Michele Beaman

Maxine Langford

Darlene Nugen

Michelle Shutty

Sandi Barrett

Doug Ponier

Bill Pritchard

Bill VanDyke

Ministers

Office Manager

Music Director

Nursery Attendant

Children's Ministry Director

Sexton

Business Manager

Choir Director

Handbell Choir Director

Jazz Musician

Jazz Musician

Jazz Musician