



# CHISAGO LAKE

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# LUTHERAN CHURCH



4th Sunday of Advent

December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022

9:00 am

*GROUNDING IN THE GOSPEL, GUIDED  
BY THE SPIRIT, WE ARE A PEOPLE  
AND PLACE OF GRACE!*

**WELCOME!**

Chisago Lake Lutheran Church  
Center City, MN  
ELCA

[www.chisagolakelutheran.org](http://www.chisagolakelutheran.org)

**WELCOME TO CHISAGO LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH!**

We are so glad you are here. At Chisago Lake Lutheran Church, we are “Grounded in the Gospel, Guided by the Spirit.” We are a people and a place of grace, where we welcome and invite all people to come as you are and be open to who God calls you to be.

- Children are wanted & welcome in worship. Activity bags are available and a special children’s message is shared at each service.
- There are devices to assist those of us who are hearing impaired at the front entrance when you enter. Please see an usher for guidance as needed.
- We practice open communion at Chisago Lake Lutheran Church. We believe God’s love, mercy and grace extends to all people offering new life and new beginnings. We join with the Psalmist in Psalm 34:8 inviting you to “Taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who put their trust in him.”
- We invite you to write your name and contact information on the blue connect card in the pew in front of you and/or sign our guest book in the entry. If you would like to be included on our email list, please add your email address. We would love to keep you informed of what’s happening around Chisago Lake Lutheran! You can drop your card in the offering baskets. Thank you!

PRELUDE Christmas hymns requests

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We gather in the name of  
the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

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Most merciful God,  
**we confess that we are bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

*“Canticle of the Turning”*

ELW Hymn #723

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Randy & Kristi Warner and family

*On the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent we light the candle of love*

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. (John 3:16-19)

## HYMN

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” ELW Hymn #257, Vv. 1-4

## FIRST READING

Isaiah 7:10-16, Pew Bible OT p.650

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING

Romans 1:1-7, Pew Bible NT p.144

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## THE GOSPEL

Matthew 1:18-25, Pew Bible NT p. 1

**RESPONSE**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Stacy Johnson

**Christmas Program: The Christmas Star.** Based on the book by Marcus Pfister

O Come all Ye, Faithful. Hymn #283 (Congregation sings v.1-4)

Go Tell it on the Mountain. Sung by Children

Behold that Star. Sung by Children

Away in the Manger. Sung by Children

Joy to the World. Hymn #267 (Children sing v. 1. Congregation sings v. 2-4)

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

## OFFERTORY

## OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. **Amen.**

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

## 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

*Communion Distribution – Please come forward as instructed or alert the ushers if you would  
like the elements brought to you.*

### DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

*“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”  
“What Feast of Love”*

ELW Hymn #631

ELW Hymn #487

### COMMUNION PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you  
have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In  
your name we pray. **Amen**

## BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

### SENDING SONG

*“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”*

ELW Hymn #254

### DISMISSAL

Go in peace, love and serve the Lord!

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

***God is doing some amazing work through  
the ministry of Chisago Lake Lutheran Church.  
This is a great time to invite your  
friends, neighbors, co-workers  
and family members  
to join us in worship!***

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**WELCOME to our new Office Coordinator, Sue Abrahamson!** Sue and her husband Al have been lifelong members here. They have 2 boys, Tim and Joe. Sue enjoys gardening, traveling and spending time with her family. Welcome Sue!

## **Visitation Ministry**

We will be starting up a lay visitation/home communion ministry team at Chisago Lake Lutheran Church. If you would like more information and are interested in joining this important ministry please contact Pastor Brian at [revdup@chisagolakelutheran.org](mailto:revdup@chisagolakelutheran.org).

## **Make Alpha a New Year's Resolution And Invite Your Friends!**

At one point or another, everyone struggles with life's biggest questions. Questions about faith, purpose, hope, and meaning. If you're wrestling with some of those questions right now, you don't have to go it alone. Alpha is a series of sessions that typically run over eleven weeks. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. Alpha is run all around the globe, and everyone is welcome. Chisago Lake Lutheran Church will offer its first Alpha Course beginning Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:15am in our Green Room. Each session will begin with refreshments, feature a large group video presentation, conclude with time for honest questions and small group conversations. Each session lasts about 60 minutes. Contact Pastor Brian ([revdup@chisagolakeluthern.org](mailto:revdup@chisagolakeluthern.org)) with questions or if you would like to be involved as a possible small group facilitator. This is an incredibly engaging and relevant series and an excellent resource and experience for anyone - especially people who are new to the Christian faith or seeking to deepen their faith.



## **Join Our New "Word Alive" Men's/Women's Bible Study!**

Want to go deeper (with God's Word, not snow)? Join Pastor Brian each Monday at Noon beginning Monday, January 9. We will meet in the Green Room. Each week we will be taking a sneak peek at the readings for the following Sunday. This Bible study is open to



both men and women of all ages – those still working and those who are re-purposed (the Bible doesn't actually mention retirement 😊). Just bring your own Bible or use the Bible app on your phone – no experience or

preparation necessary. Just show up, read the texts with those who are present, and enjoy the collective questions, insights, stories, and experiences of the group. We encourage those who work locally and can get away for an hour to join us. Bring your own lunch (or not). This is very informal, but we will start on time and end on time for those who are taking a working lunch. Whether you haven't even picked up a copy of "The Bible for Dummies" or you are a seminary educated Bible scholar, you'll find this is a great way to go deeper in God's Word, grow your engagement in the Bible, and gain a deeper appreciation and understanding for what is proclaimed on Sunday mornings. Mark your calendars now, invite your friends and co-workers and watch God do a new thing in your life!

### **Wanted - Sunday Morning Prayer Team!**

Psalm 100:4 says: "Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!" In my previous call, I was blessed to have a Sunday morning prayer team of men and women who were willing to pray over the Church, our worship service, and our pastors each Sunday about 30 minutes prior to our first service. While weird at first (I had no previous experience of such a thing), I came to treasure the blessing this was to me and our congregation to know that each Sunday our church and leaders were covered in prayer. I would invite any CLLC members who are interested to contact me and become part of a rotation for this purpose each Sunday morning. It would mean coming to worship about 35 minutes early and take about 10 minutes total. Email me at [revdup@chisagolakelutheran.org](mailto:revdup@chisagolakelutheran.org) if interested.

**A huge THANK YOU** to everyone who donated items for the Joy Baskets and the Angel Shoppe. We were able to put together some wonderful bags of goodies for our members who can't make it to church. And our young children have such a fun time shopping for their families. It is wonderful to see how thoughtful they are in picking out presents for others.

**Poinsettia envelopes** are available from the ushers. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in memory of or in honor of loved ones you can fill out the envelope and put it in the offering plate. The cost is \$12.00 for each.

**Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)** Whether you are fully or partly retired, you may find that your lifestyle is fine as-is and that you don't need additional money from your IRA.

However, even if you don't need (or want) the extra funds, at age 72 (it was age 70½ prior to January 1, 2020), the IRS requires you to take IRA withdrawals known as "Required Minimum Distributions" (RMDs). RMDs are subject to income taxes, and more taxable income may push you into a higher tax bracket.

Thankfully, for charitably-minded retirees with traditional IRAs, there is a tax-relief strategy available: the Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). The QCD gifting option allows you, starting at age 70½, to instruct your IRA administrator to direct IRA distributions—up to \$100,000 per year – to a qualified 501(c)(3) charity. Because the IRA income goes directly to charity, you do not report the QCD as taxable income and do not owe any taxes on the QCD, which may be particularly beneficial to you if you are forced to take RMDs and don't need the extra money. In addition to avoiding taxable income, your IRA distribution can be put to good use in support of our many ministries here at Chisago Lake Lutheran Church.

**The Chisago Lakes Community Meal program** will host a special **Christmas Dinner on December 19<sup>th</sup>**. There will be special music, great food, and a visit from Santa Claus! Serving will be from 4-6PM at Zion Lutheran Church at 28005 Old Towne Road in Chisago City. As always, the meal is Free for all in our community.

The Chisago Lakes Community Meal program is a ministry of Chisago Lake Lutheran, Zion Lutheran, Trinity Lutheran, and First Methodist Churches for over eleven years. 4146 meals have been served from June through October this year.

**32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Community Christmas Dinner** Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup> at First United Methodist Church, 30828 Irene Ave., Lindstrom. Serving time is Noon until 1:15 pm. The meal is FREE but reservations are requested by Wednesday, December 14. Please call 257-4306 to reserve a seat.

**Swedish Cardamom Bread for you and your families:** If you missed getting the cardamom bread at the church bazaar last weekend, Sally Barott is taking orders for her yummy bread. It's a large braided loaf of bread with real Swedish Cardamom spice (imported from Sweden), and iced with almond flavored frosting and topped with sliced almonds. Each loaf is \$20.00 and serves 10-15 depending on how thick you make your slices! It's perfect for coffee time and sharing with Christmas parties. Call Sally at 651-257-4773 to order your loaf and to set the pick up date. *Tack sa mycket och God Jul.*

**PRAYER CONCERNS** (please contact the church office with any concerns/updates.)

- Lee Turner for healing and recovery after he fell from a ladder breaking his pelvis in 3 areas. He sends words of thanks for that have sent cards and reached out to him.

- Hannah Turner, wife of Matt Turner, daughter in law of Lee & Karen Turner, prayers for wellness and healing are requested.
- Sally Barott, cancer treatments and a good outcome with her A-fib.

### **Current Ways to Give to the Church**

Thank you for sharing your generosity with Chisago Lake Lutheran! You have continued to share what God's entrusted to you and we are grateful. Ways you can give include:

1. Mail your envelope/check to the church office at 1 Summit Ave, PO Box 175, Center City, MN 55012
2. Or sign up for regular online giving through our partner company Vanco on the church website. It's secure, convenient, and assures your ability to give consistently to God's mission. [www.chisagolakelutheran.org](http://www.chisagolakelutheran.org)

**12-11-22 Attendance = 284 - Sanctuary -126 Facebook - 129, YouTube -29**

### **THIS WEEK AT CLLC:**

- **Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>**
  - 9:00 am -Worship 9:00 am , Children's Christmas program during worship.
  - NO Sunday School
  - 7:00 pm - Narcotics Anonymous in the Fellowship Hall
- **Monday, December 19<sup>th</sup>**
  - 4:00 pm - Community Meals at Zion Lutheran Church
- **Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>**
  - 7:00 pm - Al-Anon in the Undercroft
- **Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup>**
  - 10:00 am Staff Meeting – Office
  - No Tree of Life Choir or Confirmation
- **Thursday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>**
  - 8:00 am Men's Breakfast, Swedish Inn
- **Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**
  - 4:00 pm Christmas Eve. Worship Service
  - 9:00 pm Christmas Eve. Worship Service with Communion

- **Sunday, December 25th - Monday – December 26<sup>th</sup> - BUILDING CLOSED**
  - 9:00 am - Worship Service of Lessons and Carols at 9:00 am
  - NO Sunday School
  - 7:00 pm - Narcotics Anonymous

### STAFF EMAILS

Pastor Brian – [revdup@chisagolakelutheran.org](mailto:revdup@chisagolakelutheran.org)

Louise/Sue – [office@chisagolakelutheran.org](mailto:office@chisagolakelutheran.org)

Stacy – [youth.family@chisagolakelutheran.org](mailto:youth.family@chisagolakelutheran.org)

Stephanie- [finance@chisagolakelutheran.org](mailto:finance@chisagolakelutheran.org)

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Pianist/Organist: Kay Oien

Reader: Alyssa Hollister

Advent Candle lighters & readers: Randy & Kristi Warner and family

Acolytes: Dylan Lindahl and Lincoln Perry

Altar Guild: Pat Williams and Judy Nelson

Coffee Servers: Pam Carlson and Jodi Gechart

Greeters: Jamie Carlson and Mike Carlson

Online Video Operator: Brayden Bresnahan

Ushers: Mike Nesseth, Rich Whitman, Chris Knight, and Butch Johnson

Communion and Offering Assistants: Lee Peterson and Lori Sampson

*Get a 2<sup>nd</sup> dose of this service by watching local Channel 10 (CLTV) on Sundays. At 10 am you'll see last week's service.*

### PASTOR'S PARKING LOT PRAYER

All Chisago Lake members are invited to pray this prayer often: "Let Chisago Lake Lutheran Church be a place of welcome and hospitality; comfort and care; hope and joy for all who enter and exit our doors. Transform hearts, minds, and lives through the power of your Holy Spirit and through the message of your love and grace through Jesus Christ. Amen."