

CHRIST OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

37 Warner Avenue, Jersey City, NJ 07305

The Reverend Kimberly Vaughn, Pastor

Church: 201-433-1836 Fax: 201-433-1865

Church email: contact.redeemerlutheranjc@gmail.com

Pastor's email: pastor@christourredeemer.net

Worship Service – 9:30 AM Sundays (In-person & Online)

Zoom Meeting ID: 881 4746 6449; Password: 348873

Phone: 1-646-558-8656

February 4, 2024

5th Sunday after Epiphany

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are delighted that you are worshipping today at Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. May your experience with God here be a blessing!

ACCESS FOR ALL: While we stand often during the service, please assume a posture of reverence which you are able or comfortable. A wheelchair accessible restroom is located in the Parish Hall through the kitchen. If you'd like Communion brought to your seat, our Pastor will gladly assist you. Activity bulletins are available for young worshippers (see ushers or Pastor).

How do I find worship music?

ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship (the red book in your pew)

LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship (the green book in your pew)

AAH - African American Heritage (the beige book in your pew)

Find us online at:

Website: <https://www.christourredeemerjc.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ChristOurRedeemerJerseyCity>

Instagram: www.instagram.com/cor.jc

Have questions? Interested in baptism or membership? Please speak with our ***Pastor Kimberly Vaughn*** after service Or, call 201.433.1836.

P-Pastor C-Congregation

Prelude

Welcome

GATHERING

Confession and Forgiveness

Please stand as you are comfortable.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God, our rock and refuge,

C: we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all.

P: The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn: Praise to the Lord, The Almighty (ELW 858, LBW 543)

Apostolic 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.

Kyrie

A: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

A: For peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

A: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

A: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

A: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen

Hymn of Praise

A: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

C: Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Salutation

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Front page of the *Celebrate* Insert

P: Let us pray... Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

WORD

Lessons in *Celebrate* Insert

First Reading	Isaiah 40:21-31
Psalmody	Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
Second Reading	1 Corinthians 9:16-23
Gospel	Mark 1:29-39

First Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31

The Judeans in exile have a good reason to be hopeful: the one who will bring them to freedom is the God who created the world, the God who subdues the rulers of the earth and gives strength to those who are weary.

²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,

and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;

who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,

and spreads them like a tent to live in;

²³who brings princes to naught,

and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,

scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth,

when he blows upon them, and they wither,

and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

²⁵To whom then will you compare me,

or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see:

Who created these?

He who brings out their host and numbers them,

calling them all by name;

because he is great in strength,

mighty in power,

not one is missing.

²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
“My way is hidden from the Lord,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?
²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The Lord is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.
²⁹He gives power to the faint,
and strengthens the powerless.
³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary,
and the young will fall exhausted;
³¹but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 147:1-11, 20c

The Lord heals the brokenhearted. (*Ps. 147:3*)

¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises ¹ to our God!
How pleasant it is to honor ¹ God with praise!

²**The Lord re- ¹ builds Jerusalem,
and gathers the ex- ¹ iles of Israel.**

³The Lord heals the ¹ brokenhearted
and binds ¹ up their wounds.

⁴**The Lord counts the number ¹ of the stars
and calls them all ¹ by their names. R**

⁵Great is our Lord and might- ¹ y in power;
there is no limit ¹ to God’s wisdom.

⁶**The Lord lifts ¹ up the lowly,
but casts the wicked ¹ to the ground.**

⁷Sing to the Lord ¹ with thanksgiving;
make music upon the harp ¹ to our God,

⁸who covers the heav- | ens with clouds
and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow up- | on the
mountains. R

⁹God provides food | for the cattle
and for the young ravens | when they cry.

¹⁰**God is not impressed by the might | of a horse,
and has no pleasure in the speed | of a runner,**

¹¹but finds pleasure in those who | fear the Lord,
in those who await God's steadfast love. ^{20c} Hallelujah! R

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

God entrusted Paul with the responsibility of bringing the gospel to diverse people. Hence the focus of Paul's ministry is not his own rights or privileges as an apostle but the privilege of serving God by freely sharing the good news of Christ with others.

¹⁶If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

(In honor of God's Good News to us in Jesus, we stand or assume a posture of reverence to receive the reading of the Gospel.)

**C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia.**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 1st chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

Everywhere Jesus goes, many people expect him to set them free from oppression. Everywhere he goes, he heals people and sets them free. Disease, devils, and death are running for their lives. The forces that diminish human life are rendered powerless by Jesus.

²⁹As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Children's Time

The Reverend Kimberly Vaughn

(Children are welcome to come forward for a special message.)

Sermon

The Reverend Kimberly Vaughn

Please stand as you are comfortable.

Hymn of the Day:

Precious Lord, Take My Hand (ELW 773)

The Apostles' Creed

P: Let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**C: 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. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Back page of the *Celebrate* Insert

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Everlasting God, you bring your healing power to the church. Give your church a spirit of unity and prayer, that we discern your way for us in the world. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Creator of the ends of the earth, you make the grass grow and send rain for the soil. Bring your creation into harmony and balance. Give animals their food and

provide healthy shelter for your people. Inspire us to honor the miraculous beauty of all you have made. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God without equal, your steadfast love endures forever. Bring the leaders, elected officials, and peacekeepers of our towns and countries into understanding and unity. Guide them to serve with compassion and understanding. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God who strengthens, you lift up with your hand any who are suffering. Heal those who are brokenhearted and strengthen the weak and all in need (*especially*). God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God who gives power to the faint, challenge us to share the faith stories of what God has done in our lives. Open us to receive the unique ways God is at work in your people, especially those whose perspectives challenge our own. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God who calls each star by name, we remember all who have died. Shelter all who mourn with your mercy and care, and give us hope in your promised salvation. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

MEAL

Greeting of Peace

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

C: And also with you.

(We share a sign of Christ's peace—a wave, handshake, smile, hug—however you are comfortable!)

Please be seated.

Offering & Offertory Music

(In response to hearing God's Word, we respond with joy in our offering.)

Please stand as you are comfortable.

C: Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all, unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Offertory Prayer

P: Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. **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 him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

P: 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 in 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 in remembrance of me.

C. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

P: Let us pray as Jesus taught...

C: 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: At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.
Please be seated.

C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Hymn:

On Eagle's Wings (ELW 787)

Distribution of Communion

(Please bring the communion back to your seat to eat and drink. Someone will collect the cups afterwards.)

Please stand as able.

Post-Communion Canticle:

God is So Good

GOD IS SO GOOD, GOD IS SO GOOD, GOD IS SO GOOD, HE'S SO GOOD TO ME.

HE CARES FOR ME, HE CARES FOR ME, HE CARES FOR ME, HE'S SO GOOD TO ME.

HE'S ALL I NEED, HE'S ALL I NEED, HE'S ALL I NEED HE'S SO GOOD TO ME.

P: Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

C: Amen

Please be seated.

Announcements

(Please see the last page.)

SENDING

Please stand as you are comfortable.

Benediction

P: God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, ✠ bless you and remain with you always.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me (ELW 860)

Closing Anthem

Jesus Remember Me

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please Remember Our Sick and Shut-Ins:

Deborah Frazier	Jersey City, NJ	201-333-0707
James Gumbs	Jersey City, NJ	646-940-3464
Joe Heard, Sr.	Linden, NJ	201-725-5231
Jonathan Strong Sr.	Jersey City, NJ	551-580-5759
Juanita Larkins	North Plainfield, NJ	201-798-3460
Kate Fauder	Jersey City, NJ	201-333-5752
Kathy Connally	Jersey City, NJ	201-451-9057
Louise Givens	Jersey City, NJ	201-432-1486
Maggie Graves	Jersey City, NJ	201-434-2251
Rabone Goolserran	Jersey City, NJ	201-432-8215
Sylvia Bishran	Jersey City, NJ	201-492-8108
Vernon Goolserran	Jersey City, NJ	201-432-8215
Yvonne Grant	Jersey City, NJ	973-444-2266

Worship Participants

Ministers The People of Christ Our Redeemer
Pastor Reverend Kimberly Vaughn
Pianist Kim Norton
Lector: Joan Narain
Counters: TBD
Usher: Corey Brooks and Joy Griggs

Thank you to those who assisted in today's worship.

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB176168, 2024 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, admin.

Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright ©1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Our Parish Calendar

February Birthdays:

James Gumbs 9th
Jakiya Carter 18th
Pastor Kimberly 22nd
Torren Green 25th

February Baptism Anniversaries:

Worship Assistants for 2/11/2024

Lector: Janasia Carter
Counters: Carla Parker and TBD
Usher: Corey Brooks and Joy Griggs

Worship Assistants for 2/18/2024

Lector: Toni Mabry
Counters: Janasia Carter and TBD
Usher: Corey Brooks and Joy Griggs

Worship Assistants for 2/25/2024

Lector: Jameka Carter
Counters: TBD
Usher: Corey Brooks and Joy Griggs

Worship Assistants for 3/3/2024

Lector: Timekia Carter
Counters: Jameka Carter
Usher: TBD

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Congregational:

- *ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING* will be TODAY after worship. Please stay so we can hear your voice!
- *THANK YOU* to everyone who assisted with and attended Pastor Vaughn's installation service. The video of the service is posted on our church website: <https://www.christourredeemerjc.org/>
- *ASH WEDNESDAY & LENT*: Ash Wednesday service will be here on Wednesday, February 14 at 6:30 p.m. Joint supper/worship with area churches begins on Wednesday, February 21 at Grace, Bayonne. Meal begins at 6 pm and worship begins at 7 pm.
- *COUNCIL MEETINGS*: Our February council meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 13th, and our March meeting will be on Tuesday, March 12th. Please note the date changes!
- *OFFERING ENVELOPES*: See Wanda Fluellen if you don't have your envelopes. Please note - your envelope number may have changed.
- *BIBLE STUDY*: Join us each Thursday at 6:30 p.m. for study and conversation on "Daily Discipleship". See Pastor Kimberly for details.
- *HOLY BAPTISM*: If you or your child are interested in being baptized, please see Pastor Kimberly.
- *FIRST COMMUNION*: Do you have a child ready to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion? Please see Pastor Kimberly.
- *LOOSE CHANGE*: Got any spare change? Drop it in the jar after worship—all monies go towards the building fund.
- Please see page 9 for the list of upcoming worship assistants.

NJ Synod and Community:

- The 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering will take place July 16-20, 2024 in New Orleans. Registration fee is \$425 through February 14th. Late fee (Feb. 15—April 15) is \$475. MYLE and tAble registration fee is \$190 (Waived restriction apply). A \$150 nonrefundable and registration fee are due at sign-up.

**125th YEAR OF WITNESS AND SERVICE TO CHRIST
THROUGH GOD'S WORD, THE LIGHT AND THE TRUTH,
WE INVITE ALL TO GROW IN CHRIST**

† Connected to Christ † Connected to Each Other † Connected to Community

Meal starts @ 6 pm
Worship starts @ 7 pm

Feb. 21
Grace Lutheran
Church
836 Avenue C
Bayonne

Feb. 28 Christ
Our Redeemer
Lutheran Church
37 Warner Ave.
Jersey City

"OPEN MY LIFE"
LENT 2024

*Wednesday Soup &
Services*

Join our area Lutheran congregations for meals &
meditations each Wednesday in Lent

March 6
Bethany Lutheran
Church
2015 JFK Blvd.
Jersey City

March 13
Trinity Lutheran
Church
195 Claremont
Ave.
Jersey City

All are welcome