

CHRIST OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

37 Warner Avenue, Jersey City, NJ 07305

The Reverend Kimberly Vaughn, Pastor

Church: 201-433-1836 Pastor: 201-433-2889

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 25, 2024

2nd Sunday in Lent

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, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn:

How Firm A Foundation (ELW 796)

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

Salutation

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Front page of the *Celebrate* Insert

P: O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

WORD

Lessons in *Celebrate* Insert

First Reading

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Psalmody

Psalm 22:23-31

Second Reading

Romans 4:13-25

Gospel

Mark 8:31-38

First Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

As with Noah, God makes an everlasting covenant with Abraham and Sarah. God promises this old couple that they will be the ancestors of nations, though they have no child together. God will miraculously bring forth new life from Sarah's womb. The name changes emphasize the firmness of God's promise.

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you."

¹⁵God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 22:23-31

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord. (Ps. 22:27)

²³You who fear the Lord, give praise! All you of Jacob's ¹ line, give glory.

Stand in awe of the Lord, all you off- ¹ spring of Israel.

²⁴**For the Lord does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the Lord's face hid- ¹ den from them;**

but when they cry out, ¹ the Lord hears them.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the ¹ great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who ¹ fear the Lord.

²⁶**The poor shall eat ¹ and be satisfied,**

Let those who seek the Lord give praise! May your hearts ¹ live forever! R

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn ¹ to the Lord;

all the families of nations shall bow ¹ before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs ¹ to the Lord,
who rules o- ¹ ver the nations.**

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow ¹ down in worship;
all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel be- ¹ fore the
Lord.

³⁰**Their descendants shall ¹ serve the Lord,
whom they shall proclaim to genera- ¹ tions to come.**

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people ¹ yet unborn,
saying to them, "The ¹ Lord has acted!" R

Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25

Paul presents Abraham as the example for how a person comes into a right relationship with God not through works of the law but through faith. Though Abraham and Sarah were far too old for bearing children, Abraham trusted that God would accomplish what God had promised to accomplish.

¹³The promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." ²³Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus

our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

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: Come by here, dear Lord, come by here. Come by here, dear Lord, come by here. Come by here, dear Lord, come by here. O, Lord, come by here.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 8th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Mark 8:31-38

After Peter confesses his belief that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus tells his disciples for the first time what is to come. Peter's response indicates that he does not yet understand the way of the cross that Jesus will travel.

³¹[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

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:

Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus (AAH 368)

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

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.

A brief silence.

We turn to you for meaning, holy God. Nurture in your children the gifts of the Spirit poured out in baptism and let the mind of Christ guide the church. Give wisdom and discernment to our bishops, pastors, deacons, teachers, and leaders. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We turn to you for renewal. Save lives and ecosystems threatened by pollution and a changing climate. Cleanse the earth's waters and restore the soil. Preserve rainforests, deserts, and wildlife, that generations to come may cherish your creation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We turn to you for justice. Uphold the worth and dignity of every person, especially any who experience hatred and rejection because of gender, ability, sexual orientation, color, ethnicity, or religion. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We turn to you for healing. Send compassionate helpers to any who suffer because of war and violence. Shelter unhoused people, befriend those who are lonely, bring hope to any in despair, and console the bereaved (*especially*). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We turn to you for purpose. Remind us of your faithfulness to this congregation. Increase our trust in your guidance and keep us near the cross. Grant that our acts of service will express Christ's sacrificial love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We turn to you for peace. We honor the saints who lived in service to others (*especially Elizabeth Fedde, deaconess, whom we commemorate today*). Inspire us by their example until you gather us into your kingdom. 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.**

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: 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.**

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 he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

P: God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along the way.

In times of bitterness you did not abandon us, but guided us into the path of love and light. In every age you sent prophets to make known your loving will for all humanity. The cry of the poor has become your own cry; our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire. In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant to preach good news to the afflicted, to break bread with the outcast and despised, and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

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 for the 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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.

C: Amen.

P: Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.

C: Amen.

P: Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

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: Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

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:

Your Grace and Mercy (AAH 270)

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: 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.

C: Amen

Please be seated.

Announcements

(Please see the last page.)

SENDING

Please stand as you are comfortable.

Benediction

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

We've Come This Far By Faith (ELW 633)

Closing Anthem

Jesus Remember Me

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share your bread.

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
Sylvena Davis	Jersey City, NJ	201-279-2002

Worship Participants

Ministers	The People of Christ Our Redeemer
Pastor	Reverend Kimberly Vaughn
Pianist	Kim Norton
Lector:	Toni Mabry
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 3/3/2024

Lector:	Timekia Carter
Counters:	Jameka Carter and TBD
Usher:	TBD

Worship Assistants for 3/10/2024

Lector: Janasia Carter
Counters: TBD
Usher: TBD

Worship Assistants for 3/17/2024

Lector: Corey Brooks
Counters: Janasia Carter and TBD
Usher: TBD

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Congregational:

- LENTEN SERVICES: Joint supper/worship with area churches continues next Wednesday, February 28, hosted by Christ Our Redeemer. Please contact Toni Mabry if you can assist with the meal. Meal begins at 6 pm and worship begins at 7 pm.
- COUNCIL MEETINGS: Our March meeting will be on Tuesday, March 12th. Please note the date changes!
- LENTEN DEVOTIONS are available for pick up in either regular or large print at the church. Take yours home today.
- BIBLE STUDY: Join us Thursday at 1:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. for 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. We are in need of worship assistants for March and following months.

NJ Synod and Community:

- The 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering will take place July 16-20, 2024 in New Orleans. 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.

- SYNOD BOOK CONVERSATION: All are invited to join a New Jersey Synod Zoom discussion of the book “Black Cake” on Sunday, March 3rd at 7:30pm. To register for the Zoom link, go to:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAufu2ppj8tHdBD2UiBQubqMGEhPaFvPQpv#/registration>

**126th 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

**Wednesday Supper &
Worship w/ friends
(6 p.m.):**

2/21 - Grace Lutheran,
Bayonne

3/6 - Bethany Lutheran,
JC

3/13 - Trinity Lutheran, JC

**Christ Our Redeemer
Lutheran Church**
Jersey City, NJ



**At Christ Our
Redeemer:**

Wednesday 2/28 & 3/20

- Supper & worship
beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Palm Sunday Worship
3/24 - 9:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday 3/28 -
6:30 p.m.

Good Friday 3/29 - 6:30
p.m.

Holy Saturday 3/30 -
Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Sunday 3/31 - 9:30
a.m.

**Lent & Holy Week @Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran
Church, 37 Warner Ave., Jersey City NJ**