



Worship

All worship services will be recorded and posted on the [church website](#) so you can watch and stay connected each week. Online worship will continue until the restrictions for large group gatherings are lifted.



Church Council 2020

Kylee Amdor
Wes Aylsworth
Carmen Hanson
Jennifer Hinker
Jon Holzer
Elizabeth Kohlhof
Dan Langner
Tom Sebelien
Stacy VanCura
Pastor Bruce Kuenzel



Free Fresh Produce and Dairy

Sponsored by NourishingHOPE Food Drop and Second Harvest Heartland

Boxes of fresh produce and dairy products will be available for drive through pick up on a first come, first served basis
All are welcome

Wednesday, July 15th 3pm -until gone

Locations for pick up

Corcoran

St. Thomas Catholic Church parking lot

Delano

Light of Christ Lutheran Church parking lot

St. Michael new location

St. Michael Elementary School parking lot

Montrose

Montrose United Methodist Church parking lot

Rockford

Our Father's Lutheran Church parking lot

Buffalo

Buffalo Covenant Church parking lot

Appropriate distancing and covid mitigation practices will be employed



The Marks of Discipleship

- ✝ Pray daily
- ✝ Worship weekly
- ✝ Read the Bible
- ✝ Serve at or beyond Light of Christ
- ✝ Relate to others for spiritual growth
- ✝ Give of my time, talents and resources

Contact us!

Light of Christ Lutheran
3976 County Line Road SE
Delano, MN 55328
(763) 972-2400



LightOfChristLutheran.com
lochris@frontiernet.net

Discover Light of Christ Session on Zoom

For everyone who has interest in participating in a Discover Light of Christ session, the opportunity is back! As Pastor Bruce has said, Light of Christ has not changed what we are doing but we have changed how we are doing it. With that as our new normal, **we would like to invite you to participate in a "Discover Light of Christ" online session.**

If you have a desire to hear more about life at Light of Christ as you consider making this your church home, we will be sharing our Discover Light of Christ informational session online as a Zoom call on **Sunday, July 19th from 12:00 – 2:00.**

If you are interested in participating in this session please contact Jinnelle Weis at locvolunteer@frontier.com or by cell phone at 952-250-5527 by **Monday, July 13th**. Prior to the Zoom call on Sunday, July 19th, we will provide you with the meeting identification number and password.

Again, thank you for considering Light of Christ - we look forward to connecting on Zoom and will be blessed to welcome new members to our church family!

Outdoor Worship Together!

We have good news! On July 19th we will hold an outdoor worship service! There are a few details we would like to share with the congregation ahead of time. In order to maintain a healthy environment the worship service will look a little different than our normal services:

- ◆ Masks will not be required outdoors, but we ask that each family remain at least six feet apart on the lawn.
- ◆ We ask congregation members to refrain from singing along with the songs as this is a high-risk activity in group settings.
- ◆ We will not participate in group prayer, since speaking together in a large group also raises the risk level.
- ◆ We will hold communion at the outdoor service. Each congregation member will receive a prepackaged wafer and prepackaged wine.
- ◆ We will pre-record a service that will be posted on our YouTube page as usual for those who cannot make it. There will be no Zoom communion, but we will include communion liturgy in the recorded service.
- ◆ Please bring your own chairs.
- ◆ If you are experiencing Covid-like symptoms or have been exposed to a person diagnosed with Covid, we ask that you remain at home.
- ◆ We will send out a Sign Up Genius soon! We highly encourage all of you to sign up for the service ahead of time as it is helpful for us to know how many people will be attending so we can plan out spacing, volunteers, etc. Keep in mind that the limit on outdoor gatherings is 250 people.

We are so excited to give everyone the chance to worship together in person! We thank you ahead of time for your flexibility and willingness to follow all the instructions above. Our top priority is making sure our members stay happy and healthy!

2021 Offering Envelopes

Your regular giving -- whether electronic, by checks or one-time gift -- has kept Light of Christ's finances stable. **Thank you!** With the Sunday service and communion continuing via YouTube and Zoom, we encourage using electronic options to continue your financial support.



If you recently transitioned to electronic giving **and no longer need the pre-printed annual giving envelopes** you requested last year, please email lochrist@frontiernet.net or call 763-972-2400 by **August 1 to OPT OUT** of this service. Envelopes will be ordered for all others who requested them in 2019.

Stewardship of the Gap— the In-between Time During the Pandemic

Does all of this sometimes feel like we're all holding our breath, waiting for things to pass...to "get back to normal?" Or at least to get to a "new normal." Do you find yourself thinking, "Once this thing passes, then I'll _____?"

Things sometimes seem so disrupted, so turned upside down, so tenuous. In fact, many feel more anxious, worried, on edge, if you will. There's a gap between what is and what we hope for or anticipate. So, what do we do? How are we to manage (steward) this sort of in-between time? Where's God and our faith in all of this? What are we to do?

Perhaps just a small step back will give us perspective. Isn't it true that we're most always in some state of being in-between...some feeling of incompleteness or yearning or striving or waiting? Indeed. This side of heaven we experience what feels to be a chasm between what is and what should be. Perhaps that just feels more significant right now. So be it. Are we to remain stuck...sidelined...powerless?

Scripture speaks to times like these in a variety of ways. God's Word gives us direction, inspiration about how we are to "steward" or be managers of these seasons of life that sometimes feel like they are draining us of energy and focus.

Our calling is to have and act with faith. Check these out:

- ✚ "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see." Hebrews 11:1
- ✚ "Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth." 1. Jn. 3:18
- ✚ "[You] are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for [yourselves] as a good foundation for the future, so that [you] may take hold of that which is truly life." 1 Tim. 6:18-19

The bottom line is that we are to be stewards of this in-between time by having and acting in faith.

Pray about this. Ask, what is it, Lord, that you would have me do? What gesture of love? What act of service? And then do whatever the Lord prompts you to do. Write someone a note. Volunteer. Give a gift. Put in a phone call. Stand up for or against something important. Engage. Be about the right, Godly thing.

Be a faithful steward of the in-between. Stand in the gap. It matters!

Your Stewardship Team

Donations for Kids in Need

Kirsten has a connection with a young woman who works with single moms in the Minneapolis area. She is currently working with 5 families (1 is homeless and 4 have housing) and is collecting needed items for their children. If you have any of the items below and would like to donate them to help the families, please contact Kirsten (LOCchildren@gmail.com). New items are always welcome but all items will be accepted and put to good use! She is not taking any toys at this time but she can often find a "home" for most other baby items (bouncy seats, etc).

- Bottles
- Baby carriers
- Any baby/kids' clothes sizes 0-10 but specifically:
 - * Baby boy sizes 0-2T
 - * Boys' sizes 5-10
 - * Girls' sizes 0-5T
- Kids' shoes
- Winter boots, coats or snow pants
- Coupons for formula
- Baby Carriers
- Coupons for formula

Food Shelf Co-Chairs Stepping Down

The Delano Food Shelf is saying goodbye to two wonderful, long-time co-chairs, Jeanie Pilarski and Sandy Kremer, who have provided amazing leadership for 15 years. Many of our church member volunteers have worked closely with them for several years. The Food Shelf is now looking for replacements (one person for both positions or two for either) to start on **October 1st**. If interested, please call 763-972-4455. Thank you Jeanie and Sandy for all you have done for the Delano community!!

Call on the Light of Christ Prayer Chain

Then you will call on me and come and pray to me and I will listen to you. Jeremiah 29:12

Are you in need of a prayer during these difficult days? Do you know someone else in need of prayer? If so, please feel free to engage the Light of Christ Prayer Chain. The process is simple and 100% confidential. All you need to do is contact the church office either by email, which is preferred— (lochrist@frontiernet.net), or phone (763-972-2400; please keep in mind office hours are currently limited to Wednesdays, 9:15-11:30 am) with your request. The church office then contacts the group of LOC members ready to pray for you as requested. Feel free to call on this team in your time of need. Anyone wishing to join the Prayer Chain should contact the Church office.

CARING CORNER

*(Created by Light of Christ
Healing and Wholeness Ministry)*



A Beautiful Exchange "This is MY Body broken for you."

Do you know that Christ died so that you may live the life you've always wanted to but don't always know how to?

"I have come so that you may have life to the full." Jesus.

John 10:10

"We are more than conquerors through Christ who loves us.

Romans 8:37

Do you know that in Him, your mind can be made new?

◇ Free from depression – Why? Because God is light. In Him there is no darkness. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome the Light.

◇ Free from anxiety – Why? Because Jesus is peace. "My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give. Jesus gives freely – no strings attached! Cast your cares on Him because He cares for you." 1 Peter 5:7

◇ Free from oppression – Why? Jesus's yoke is easy and His burden is light. "Come to me all who are weary and heavy burdened and I will give your souls rest. For I am gentle and humble in heart. Take my yoke upon you and learn from Me. My yoke is easy and My burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30 The power is in learning to make the exchange: Your struggles for His rest.

◇ Free from fear – Why? Perfect love casts out all fear. You are made perfect in God's love. Perfect love is this...that while you least deserved it, Christ died for you. Romans 5:5

◇ Christ died so that you may be raised with Him into a new life!

Who the Son sets free is free indeed! John 8:36 Your healing is not something to achieve. It is a gift of God's love, through the perfect sacrifice of His Son, to be received out of His love!

But he was wounded for our transgressions. He was bruised for our iniquities. The chastisement for our peace was upon Him and by His stripes we are healed. Isaiah 53:5

IF THE SEA COULDN'T STOP MOSES
IF A WALL COULDN'T STOP JOSHUA
IF A GIANT COULDN'T STOP DAVID
IF DEATH COULDN'T STOP JESUS,
THEN IN CHRIST, NOTHING CAN STOP YOU.

If you have any questions, thoughts you'd like to share, or would like to know more about these scriptures, please contact Gina Nee at 651-353-2277.



Ways You Can Help Us Make Worship More Vibrant!

Light of Christ staff is looking for families to help with our Sunday worship services by contributing a recording to be a part of the service (such as the Lord's Prayer, scripture lesson, Apostle's Creed, etc). If your family would be willing to help in this way, please [CLICK HERE](#) to sign up. If you have any questions, please contact Kirsten Kelly, Katie Kohler or Pastor Bruce. We are thankful for the work of our entire church family as we continue to find creative ways to grow and connect in faith!

Change for Children

This summer, even though we cannot gather for worship, our children and youth are organizing the 2nd Annual Change for Children offering project to raise money for the [ELCA Global Barnyard](#).



([Click HERE](#) to watch a short video about the [Global Farm Challenge](#)!) Last spring, this project exceeded our expectations and we raised \$1,447.97! This allowed us to purchase 2 cows, 3 goats, 3 pigs, 100 chicks and 4 sets of seeds and gardening tools (which are given to families around the world to create sustainability and food for their families). To learn more about the ELCA Good Gifts program, go to <https://goodgifts.elca.org/how-it-works-0>.

This year we are setting our goal a bit higher and hope to raise \$1,500 over the summer months! We encourage families to make a Change for Children jar at home and later in the summer we will share details about how you can drop off your donation. Donations can also be made [online on our giving page](#) (make sure to indicate "**Change for Children**"). Thanks for your support as we collect change and come together to make "Change for Children"!

Registration Is Now Open for Backyard BOLT VBS!



Registration is open now and will close on Sunday, July 12th (end of day) so that we have time to order supplies and assemble packets for each participant/family. If you register after July 12th, you will still receive the online links but you'll need to provide your own supplies. Some additional shirts will be ordered and available until gone. The official dates for this year's VBS are Monday, July 27th through Wednesday, July 29th. However, since VBS will be done virtually this year, you may have access to the program at any time that is convenient for you and your family if these dates do not work for you. VBS packets (which include all craft and game supplies along with a shirt for each child registered) will be available for pick up on **Wednesday, July 22nd** in the church parking lot (all COVID guidelines will be followed) from **9:30-10:30 am** and **4:30-5:30 pm**. Click here to register <https://forms.gle/Waow3x8AA7BLYtFn9>

Why Buy Equal Exchange?

Did you know that most "regular" chocolate you purchase in the store is not fair trade and might possibly support child labor? Do you want to be a "smart consumer" and make sure you are purchasing responsibly? The youth at Light of Christ sell Equal Exchange chocolate, coffee, tea, nuts, and dried fruit, which are all fair trade products. This means the farmers that grow the produce to make the products are paid a fair, living wage and **don't exploit children**. Watch this [short, 2-minute video](#) to learn more about Equal Exchange



chocolate. During this time of being apart, you can still order LOC Equal Exchange items online! Proceeds will benefit future summer trips. Order through our online store (<https://forms.gle/Td7By6ugsStCBALW7>) and have them delivered to your house **FOR FREE** (or to a friend to brighten their day)! Thanks for supporting our youth and farmers all over the world!

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS *(continued)*

1st Communion and Confirmation Celebrations Rescheduled

Light of Christ staff and Council have been talking about the celebrations that we missed this spring since we could not worship together in person. First Communion and Confirmation Sunday both got postponed due to Coronavirus. Here are details about our plans for these faith milestones to take place later this summer: each celebration will have a recorded worship service that families will watch at home. Then there will be 2 dates for when kids/families can sign up for a 10-minute time slot to come to the Sanctuary at Light of Christ to receive their blessing/1st Communion and take some photos. These will also be done live on Zoom so other family members can join (if "at-risk" or unable to attend in person). Here are the dates when we'll be offering sign up times for families:

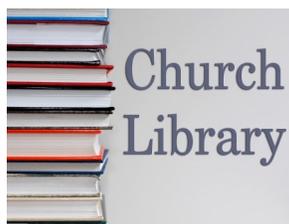
- **Confirmation (Affirmation of Baptism):** Sunday, August 23 (12-2 pm) or Wednesday, August 26 (5-7 pm)
- **First Communion:** Sunday, August 30 (12-2 pm) or Wednesday, September 2 (4-7 pm)

We are also in need of a few volunteers on the dates listed above to be at church to help "direct traffic" and answer questions. If you'd like to help in this way, please contact Kirsten Kelly or Pastor Bruce. COVID health guidelines will be followed. Thank you for keeping our children, youth and families in your prayers!

Sunday School and Confirmation Guide Input Needed!

Were you a SS teacher or Confirmation Guide this past year? If so, we invite you to join Pastor Bruce and CYF staff in a conversation via Zoom about fall planning. We truly value your input as we navigate this foreign and changing time. Zoom links will be sent closer to the meeting date. Here is the date/time info:

- Monday, July 13 at 7:30 pm = **Confirmation Guides**
- Monday, July 13 at 8:30 pm = **SS Teachers**



Church Library

Check Out the Church Library!

Just a reminder that even though the public libraries are closed, the church library has many books and resources for

members to check out, and for all ages and topics. Just stop in during office hours (currently Wednesdays 9:15-11:30 am) to check it out while still remaining socially distanced!

Tuesday Evening Bible Study/Conversation

7:00 - 8:00 p.m. via Zoom



Join us as we continue our exploration and conversation. For a Zoom link, email Tim Johnson at tdale57@gmail.com. Everyone is welcome. You may be as active in the discussion as you would like. We all learn a little something from each other as we ponder the power and beauty and truth of God's Word.



Submit Your Family Pictures

Light of Christ Members: don't forget about pictures for the online Church Directory! While we are all staying safe at home, this may be a great time to

gather the family members and take a picture of the gang. All you have to do is email your picture to [Terri at the church office](mailto:Terri@thechurchoffice.com) who will coordinate adding it to our directory.

Get Your Daily Devotions

Our weekly devotion schedule is now three days a week – **Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.** Members' favorite hymns

will be featured in the Friday devotions. If you would like to submit your favorite hymn and how it has affected your faith journey, email Katie at (locworshipmus@gmail.com). You can watch the latest video featuring members' submissions [here](#).



Stay Informed!

Church Council meeting minutes can be found on the [church website](#).

Quick Tip!

If you subscribe to our YouTube channels for devotions and worship services you will automatically receive notifications when a new video is posted. Subscribing also gives you the ability to find the channel directly from your YouTube home page without having to utilize the search engine. To subscribe, simply click the "**subscribe**" button under any of the channel's videos or on the channel's home page.

