

**THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**December 15, 2019**

**Worship with Holy Communion**

**Christ Lutheran Church**

**Hilton Head Island, SC**

**10:30 a.m.**

### ***Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church***

If you are a visitor, please know of our delight in having you in our midst. Join with us in the praise of God and at the Lord's Table. We practice open communion inviting all baptized Christians to share in Holy Communion. Children not yet prepared to receive this sacrament are invited to come forward and receive a blessing.

Children are always welcome in our worship. ***A quiet corner is available at the back of the sanctuary if parents need a place to take their young children during the service. There are 'Quiet Bags' children can take to their seats.***

**Please take a moment to sign your hospitality slip, and mark ministries/fellowship that interest you -- to be placed in the offering plate. Visitors, please provide your mailing address so we can acknowledge your presence.**

**Members, please provide any updates or changes to your contact information.**

### ***The Lord's Supper***

We believe that the body and blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine in Holy Communion, and that through this gift we receive forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation. We invite you to come to the Lord's Table to receive this gift. Both wine (dark) and grape juice (light) are offered as well as gluten free wafers (please ask the Pastor for one at communion). Those unable to come forward should mention this to an usher; the pastor will serve you in your pew.

### ***Bring a Friend***

INVITE someone to worship with you. Being a disciple is important! Someone you know needs the Lord's power and a place to worship and serve. In your circle of influence, be an influence for Jesus Christ. Your invitation can change a life!

### ***Prayer Requests***

Prayer request cards are located in the pew racks. You may include someone in today's prayers, by speaking the name as prompted during that portion of the service. You may also fill out a blue prayer card and place it in the offering plate for a name to be included in the prayer team's weekly prayers and/or the Sunday Bulletin -- Or ***email your request to our office at [info@clchhi.com](mailto:info@clchhi.com) by Tuesday noon of that week.***

### ***Serving in Worship Today***

**Lector:** Linda Konder      **Crucifer:** Susan Fidler      **Altar Guild:** Jo Ann Sebulsky

**Communion Assts:** Don & Barbara Bethman

**Ushers:** Wayne & Jo Ann Sebulsky; Ed & Judy Barrett      **Floral Guild:** Jackie Longo

**Coffee Fellowship:** Barbara Bethman

**In the event of a medical emergency, a defibrillator is located on the right side of the hallway wall leading from the sitting area into Heinrich Hall.**

## **This is Christ's church.**

### ***There is a place for you here***

*A note of joyful expectation marks today's worship. Isaiah announces that the desert shall rejoice and blossom, and Jesus points to the unexpected and transforming signs of God's reign. We wait with patience for the coming of the Lord, even as we rejoice at his presence among us this day: in word and holy supper, in church and in our homes, in silent reflection and in works of justice and love. We pray that God would open our eyes and ears to the wonders of Christ's advent among us.*

#### **INTROIT**

*All Glory, Laud and Honor*

CLC Bells

#### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **PRELUDE**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel/Lau*

Barbara Fudjack

*(Please stand at the Pastor's invitation)*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** *All should make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the parent who rouses us from slumber, the shepherd who gathers us on the holy mountain, the deliverer who sets us free.

**C Amen.**

P Let us come before the living God in confession.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P As we wait and watch for the promised day of salvation,

**C we open our hearts to you, O God. Search us and know us. Reveal all that we keep inside. To you, O God, we confess our sins, known and unknown. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us in your ways of justice and peace. Make us reflections of the radiant love of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

P Beloved children of the Most High, you are gathered before the righteous judge who has mercy on all. Splash exuberantly in the waters of baptism, where sin is washed away in the river of life. Dwell peacefully in the loving arms of the one who nurtures all creation. Go forth boldly in the assurance that your sins are forgiven in the name of the one who is coming and is already here, † Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C Amen.**

#### **GATHERING HYMN**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*  
Verses 1, 5, & 6

ELW 257

#### **THE 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.**

#### THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah  
(verses 1- 3)*

ELW 240

#### THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*(please be seated)*

#### FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:1-10

*The prophet describes the return from the Babylonian captivity as a joyous procession to Zion. God's coming reign will bring a renewal of creation in which health and wholeness will be restored. There is no need for fear, for God is coming to save.*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away

R The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**



*O - so - sǎ o - so - sǎ, pyong - hwa - ũi - im - gǔm*

- 1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.
- 2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.
- 3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.
- 4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.



*u - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sǎ.*

- Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
- Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile your peo - ple.
- Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.
- Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - on - cile all na - tions.

**SECOND READING: James 5:7-10**

*In anticipation of the Lord's coming, Christians are called upon to cultivate patience rather than discontent.*

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

R The Word of the Lord.

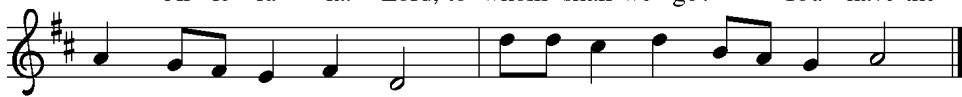
C **Thanks be to God.**

*(We stand to greet the gospel.)*

**THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**GOSPEL: St. Matthew 11:2-11**

*John the Baptist expects the Messiah to bring God's judgment upon the earth (Matt. 3:11-12). From a prison cell, he wonders whether Jesus is the one who will do this. Jesus' response indicates that God's reign is indeed being fulfilled already through healing and restoration.*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 11th chapter.

**C Glory to you, O Lord.**

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

P The Gospel of the Lord

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

*( Please be seated.)*

**CHILDREN'S TIME**

**THE SERMON**

*(Silence for Reflection. We stand as the hymn begins.)*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*People, Look East*

ELW 248

**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.**

#### **THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

P Keeping awake as we watch for Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need ...

*After each portion of the prayers:*

P Hear us, O God, **C your mercy is great.**

P You hear the cries of our hearts, O Lord. Fill us with hopeful expectation, that in each day and hour we may love and serve our neighbors, in Jesus' name.

**C Amen.**

#### **THE PEACE** *(We may greet one another in the name of the Lord)*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

**THE RETURNING OF GIFTS:** *Be seated as we collect our tithes and offerings. Gifts may also be made at our website: [www.clchhhi.org](http://www.clchhhi.org). Please stand as the gifts are brought forward.*

#### **THE RETURNING RESPONSE**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise him all creatures here below  
Praise him above ye heav'n-ly host, Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

#### **THE RETURNING PRAYER**

P For all the gifts of this day, let us pray together saying:

**C Giver of every good thing, we set before you the gifts that you have already given to sustain our lives and to share with others. Help us to be good stewards of the earth and all that is in it, and let our lives be a testimony to the abundant feast you prepare for all who hunger. Amen.**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** (*the congregation sings the responses printed in bold*)

The Lord be with you. **And al - so 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 our thanks and praise.**

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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
 san-na. 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.

**P** We praise you, living and loving God, that you have sent your Son to this world. Christ is your Wisdom, sweetly ordering all creation, our Lawgiver, burning with justice, the Branch from Jesse's tree, sprouting flowers from old roots, the Key of David, opening our prison doors. And let the people cry, O come and save us:

**C O come and save us.**

**P** We praise you, serving and saving God, that you send your Son also to this table, who on the night before he died 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 for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. And let the people cry, O come and save us:

**C O come and save us.**

P We beg you, mighty and merciful God: send us the Spirit of your Son. Dwell in this food and in all who share it, that the earth may rejoice in your presence. In Christ, the Dawning Day, enlighten a darkened world, reign as Sovereign to unite all peoples, and live among us, Emmanuel, our deepest desire now and forever. And let the people cry, O come and save us:

**C O come and save us.**

P Even so, come, Lord Jesus, with your Father and your Spirit, to the church, and receive our praises, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

P And let the people pray:

**C Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest, and let these gifts to us be blessed. Blest be God, who is our Bread; may all the world be clothed and fed. Amen.**

#### 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 Come now with joy to Emmanuel's table. Feast at the banquet of hope and love

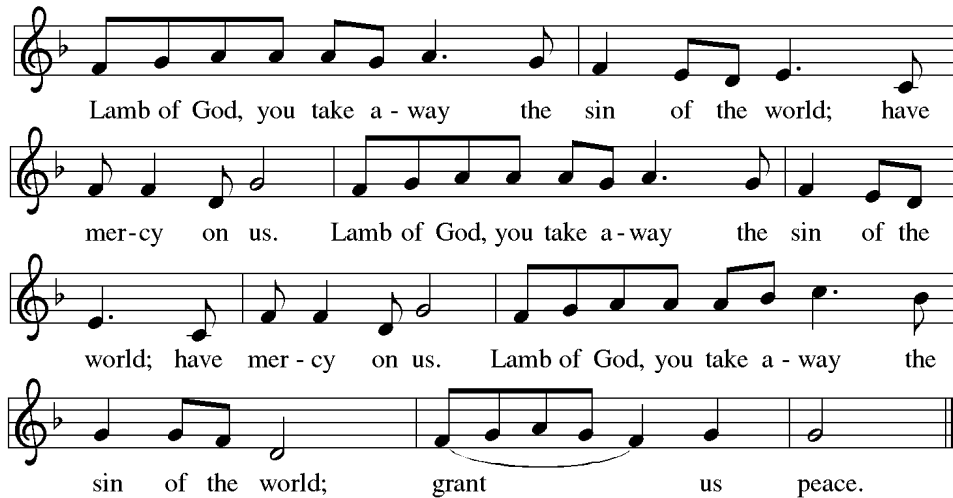
**C Amen.**

#### ***THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION***

*All are welcome to come to this Table of Grace to receive the bread and wine or to ask for a blessing. During this penitential season, we will come to the altar rail and kneel or stand as we are able to receive the elements. Come forward at the ushers' direction.*

*All who desire will receive the wafer of bread and then will be invited to dip the wafer in either the chalice of wine or grape juice. The pastor will offer a blessing at the end of each table. All may return to their pews for continued prayer and reflection.*

*(Let an usher know if you need the Pastor to serve you communion in your seat.)*



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.

**HYMNS DURING DISTRIBUTION**     *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*     ELW 490  
    *Just As I Am Without One Plea*     ELW 592

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

**P** God of abundance, we give you thanks that in this holy meal you have invited us to feast with you and one another. May the taste of your love remain with us, and may our words and our work in your name invite others into your bountiful grace. Send us from your table to proclaim your presence, even as we await the glorious coming of Christ our Savior.

**C Amen**

**THE BLESSING**

**P** May God, who gathers us in love, lead you in pathways of righteousness and justice. May God, who knows us more deeply than we know ourselves, lead you in pathways of forgiveness and freedom. May God, who fills us with good things, lead you in pathways of equity and abundance. The blessing of the holy Trinity, † one God, be upon you and remain with you forever.

**C Amen**

**THE CLOSING HYMN**     *Prepare the Royal Highway*     ELW 264

**THE DISMISSAL**

**P** Let us go in peace to serve the Lord and remember our mission...

**C We are disciples of Jesus, *Growing in faith, Serving our community*  
and *Connecting others to Christ. Thanks be to God!***

**POSTLUDE**     *On Our Way Rejoicing/Havergal*     Barbara Fudjack

*The altar flowers are given by: Wayne & JoAnn Sebulsky in celebration of their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary and Ann Hamnes in honor of Doug's birthday*

**SERMONS:** You may request a copy of today's sermon to be sent to you via email through the office (info@clchhi.com) or phone 843-785-5560.

**PRAYER CARES:** Laurie Etchells<sup>3</sup> (friend of Robin & Fran Baselice) fighting cancer that has returned; Grace Stump<sup>1</sup>, recovering from knee surgery; Emmett Kresge<sup>1</sup> (father of Chris Ponsini), recovering from surgery; Ted Gerlach<sup>1</sup>, meningitis; Gloria Szymanski<sup>1</sup>, (mother of Robin Baselice) stress of moving & physical ailments; Jesse Catapano<sup>1</sup>, suffering with anxieties; William Martens<sup>1</sup>, suffering with anxieties; Anya Martens<sup>1</sup>, fighting immune disease; Patti Soltys<sup>1</sup>, cancer checkup; Sandy West<sup>1</sup>, recovering from knee surgery; Steve Alfred\* (husband of Rita Hungate) undergoing treatment for Acute Promyelocytic Leukemia; Manfred Pyrlik\*, pancreatic cancer; Steve Bassford\*, recovering at home; Sandy Shackelford\*, Parkinson's Disease; Gary Gregory\*, (son of Lois Gregory) healing; Donna Putrino\*; Sandy Heins\*. ALL service personnel; ALL those suffering from natural disasters. \*Ongoing prayer needed. **Please use the Blue Cards in the Pew Racks to forward a prayer concern or update to the office**

***This Week at CLC***

NAMI Meeting (*Sale Educ. Ctr.*).....Monday, 5:00 p.m.  
 Staff Meeting ..... Tuesday, 10:00 a.m.  
 Church Council Meeting ..... Tuesday, 6:00 p.m.  
 Worship & Music Team Meeting..... Wednesday, 11:00 a.m.  
 Women's AA Meeting (*Parlor*) ..... Wednesday, 1:00 p.m.  
 Choir Rehearsal ..... Wednesday, 3:45 p.m.  
 Handbell Rehearsal..... Wednesday, 5:00 p.m.  
 Preschool Christmas Pageant (*Heinrichs Hall*)..... Friday, 9:00 a.m.  
 Offices Closed..... Friday  
 AA Meeting (*Sale Educ. Ctr.*)..... Friday, 5:00 p.m.



Dinners for Six Plus Two

**2020 SIX PLUS TWO DINNER GROUP SIGN UP IS UNDER**

**WAY.** Please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the narthex. Sign-ups will continue until the first week January. Next year's groups will be formed in mid-January. The groups consist of 3 couples and 2 singles. The group meets 3 times a year at the couples' homes. Singles do not need to entertain. The host couple prepares the entree and asks others to bring an appetizer, vegetable,

salad or dessert. If you are unable to entertain in your home, you can arrange a Dutch-treat lunch at a restaurant. It's a great way to get to know others at Christ Lutheran. Don't miss out on the fun! Call Elsa Felten for more information: 847-830-6348.

## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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*MY NAME IS* \_\_\_\_\_ *AND MY MINISTRY IS* \_\_\_\_\_....

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**ST. JAMES SOUP KITCHEN:** CLC is called to mission at the soup kitchen **EVERY THURSDAY** of the month! If you are interested in volunteering or simply want more information, contact *Alice Graeb -- 740-298-1086*

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### **Our 2019 Christmas Global Mission Project God's Global Barnyard**

Our gifts to **ELCA Good Gifts: God's Global Barnyard** will support the sustainable development ministries of ELCA World Hunger, which include training, education, resources (and much more) to help the community care for animals and create new market opportunities like starting a small business selling eggs, meat or dairy products. Your gifts will support this

comprehensive approach to animal husbandry.

Christmas Shopping couldn't be easier!!! You may purchase any of the following: a cow (*or a part of it*), a chicken, goat, bee, or pig or even a farm! Order forms are available in the narthex by the Christmas Tree. Pick up a corresponding greeting card and let someone know you have purchased this in their honor as their Christmas gift.

Please complete your order form, total the amount and make your check out to CLC and be sure to write "God's Barnyard" in the memo line.

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### **DECEMBER WORSHIP CALENDAR**

#### ***Sunday, Dec. 22 – Fourth Sunday in Advent***

8:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship w/Holy Communion & Children's Time

9:45 a.m. Coffee Fellowship & Faith Formation Classes

10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship w/ Holy Communion & Children's Time

#### ***Tuesday, Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve – The Nativity of Our Lord***

5:00 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Worship w/ Holy Communion & Candle Lighting

#### ***Sunday, Dec. 29 – First Sunday of Christmas***

10:00 a.m. COMBINED service w/Holy Communion & Coffee Fellowship

**Today We Welcome** as our presiding minister, Pastor Rick Klotz, while Pastor Anderson is away celebrating the ordination of her daughter, Elise, to the ministry of Word and Sacrament. Thank you, Pastor Klotz for being with us this Advent season.

## **FAMILY PROMISE FAMILIES COMING JANUARY 12-FEBRUARY 26, 2020**

Christ Lutheran is again opening its doors to the families of Family Promise. We are hosting in conjunction with Hilton Head Island Community Church, St. Francis Catholic Church, All Saints Episcopal and congregation Beth Yam. We are sharing meal preparation and overnight hosting with them. Christ Lutheran will be responsible for 2 nights of meals and overnight hosting. Christ Lutheran's two nights are: January 12 and 25. Please sign up in the narthex or email [elsafelten@yahoo.com](mailto:elsafelten@yahoo.com) if you can help.

To date, we have four families in the program – 4 women and 8 children. The children range in age from 4 months to 15 years. Meals should be simple; like comfort food. Many Meal Preparers make their dinners in crock pots and bring them warm. The meal is served around 6:30 each evening. Preparers stay and eat with our guests and can leave when the overnight hosts arrive, around 8:00 pm.

Overnight hosts need to bring sheets, pillows and blankets themselves. The guests leave around 7:00 in the morning and the overnight hosts can leave shortly after tidying up. We are looking for 2 space heaters. Some of the rooms are not warm if the weather turns cold.

Family Promise requires a Volunteer Application approved prior to working with our guests. These will be available next Sunday, (12/8) in the narthex. If you plan to serve a meal or stay over night and have not previously filled out a Volunteer Application please pick one up in the narthex and send it to the Family Promise address printed on the form.

In addition there are a few items that need to be purchased for the two week stay.

Paper bowls 48	Kleenex boxes 2
Plastic spoons 100	Individual Yogurts 6
Plastic forks 100	String Cheese 12

If you feel moved to volunteer for meal preparation, overnight stay, supplies or a space heater to loan, please sign up in the narthex or call Elsa Felten at 847-830-6348 or email [elsafelten@yahoo.com](mailto:elsafelten@yahoo.com). Thank you!!

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The Rev. Dr. Mary W. Anderson, Interim Pastor  
Silke Pyrlik, Director of Christian Life \*\*\* Jim Fritz, Director of Music  
Linda Sheetz, Parish Administrator \*\*\* Nancy Conder, Director of Preschool  
829 William Hilton Parkway Hilton Head Island, SC 29928  
843-785-5560 · www.clchhi.org  
Christ Lutheran Church Preschool 843-785-6570  
Church Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m

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**POINSETTIA  
ORDERS**

Poinsettia and greenery will once again decorate the church for our Christmas Eve services. To purchase Poinsettia plants, (*\$12 each*) to enhance our chancel, please complete this form and place it, with your payment, in the offering plate or return it to the church office ASAP!

I would like to purchase \_\_\_\_\_ (#) Poinsettia

Given By: \_\_\_\_\_  
**(please print! As you want it presented in the bulletin)**

\_\_\_ *To the Glory of God*  
\_\_\_ *In Memory of* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ *In Honor of* \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate whether or not you expect to pick up your plant(s) after the 12/24 late service Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

*If possible, please leave your plant(s) to decorate the chancel for the combined service at 10:00 a.m. on December 29.*

Please include your check payable to:  
*Christ Lutheran Church (Poinsettia) TOTAL: \$* \_\_\_\_\_