

# THE PATHFINDER

Website: [www.ctslutheran.net](http://www.ctslutheran.net)

E-Mail: [ctslutheranpf@gmail.com](mailto:ctslutheranpf@gmail.com)

Phone: (715) 762-4107

Publisher CTS

Volume 40 Issue 1 January 2024

Dear Friends in Christ,

Where did 2023 go? If you are like me, the days, weeks, and months seemed to fly by. And so, we find ourselves in a new calendar year. Christmas has come and gone. No snow on the ground somehow makes it seem like the New Year is here all too soon.

Back at the beginning of October when the war in Israel began, several of you had asked me if this was a sign of the end of the world. I even had a phone call or two asking how I was going to preach that the end was near. Well, those of you who came to worship regularly on Sunday mornings know that I did not preach such a sermon. And we are still here today at the dawning of 2024.

In Jesus' day the disciples wanted to know when the end would come, when Jesus would return. Matthew 24:3 "Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign of your coming and of the end of the age?" is what they asked Him. Jesus responds that many things will have to take place first from wars, to earthquakes, to famines. After these things then the Son of Man will be seen coming on the clouds of heaven, and there will be a trumpet call. The disciples assumed that Christ would return again in their lifetime. And here we are in 2024, almost 2000 years later and Jesus has not yet returned!

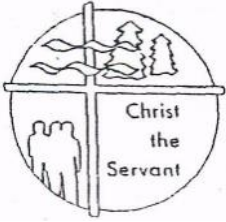
Matthew 24 continues with a lesson of the Fig Tree and then in verse 36 Jesus says, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father." We are assured that it will be in God the Father's time, not in ours. So, we need not worry, and we need not speculate. All we should do is make sure we are ready for his return. Ready every day with faith at least the size of a mustard seed.

Our belief in Jesus as Lord and Savior is paramount to receive the gracious gifts God gives us of forgiveness, abundant life here on earth and the promise of eternal in heaven with Him. And the wish from God is that we live out that faith following the path of service Jesus set before us. Live God's amazing grace and love, sharing it with others. Come and join us at Christ the Servant as we begin another exciting year of ministry as the hands and feet of Jesus in our community.

May God Bless You All,  
Pastor Gwen



~Christians Serving God By Serving Others~



# THE PATHFINDER

Website: [www.ctslutheran.net](http://www.ctslutheran.net)

E-Mail: [ctslutheranpf@gmail.com](mailto:ctslutheranpf@gmail.com)

Phone: (715) 762-4107

Publisher CTS

Volume 40 Issue 1 January 2024



## Pastor Gwen's January Office Hours:



Monday 1-4 PM

Wednesday 2-4 PM

No Office Hours on January 1st.

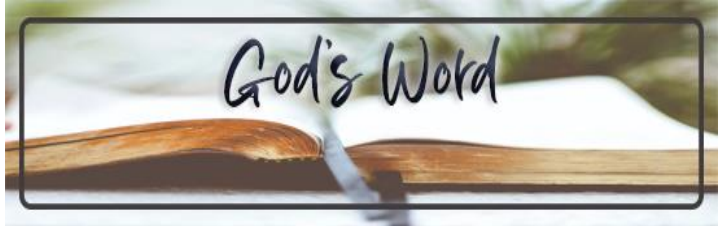


Woman's Group meets every Tuesday  
from 10AM -2PM.

No meeting on January 2nd.



Men's Group will meet  
Saturday, January 13th at 8AM.



## January Bible Readings

### January 7, 2024 – Baptism of Our Lord

First Lesson	Genesis 1:1-5
Psalm 29	
Second Lesson	Acts 19:1-7
Gospel Reading	Mark 1:4-11

### January 14, 2024 – 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

First Lesson	1 Samuel 3:1-10
Psalm 139:1-6,13-18	
Second Lesson	1 Corinthians 6:12-20
Gospel Reading	John 1:43-51

### January 21, 2024 – 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

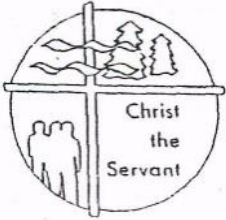
First Lesson	Jonah 3:1-5,10
Psalm 62:5-12	
Second Lesson	1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Gospel Reading	Mark 1:14-20

### January 28, 2024 – 4th Sunday after Epiphany

First Lesson	Deuteronomy 18:15-20
Psalm 111	
Second Lesson	1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Gospel Reading	Mark 1:21-28



~Christians Serving God By Serving Others~



# THE PATHFINDER

Website: [www.ctslutheran.net](http://www.ctslutheran.net)

E-Mail: [ctslutheranpf@gmail.com](mailto:ctslutheranpf@gmail.com)

Phone: (715) 762-4107

Publisher CTS

Volume 40 Issue 1 January 2024



*Please remember these people and requests in your prayers.*

**Health/Concerns:** Olivia, Stephanie, Carrie, Meg, Allen, Ruth, Joyce, Kathy, Eugene, and Leigh Grace.

**Military:** Anton, Ryan, Josh, Autumn, and Natalie.

CTS Church Council, WELCA, Quilting Ministry, Adult Bible Studies, CTS Youth, AIDS orphans in Malawi, Hunger and poverty in the world, and the Ukrainian people.

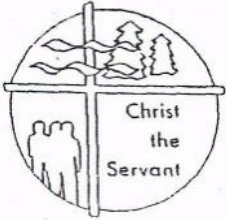
Reframe the way you see this season of winter.  
Recast the struggle for what it is, an opportunity for  
God to again what He does best:  
flip a story on its head and resurrect

# Life

out of death.

MAX LUCADO

~Christians Serving God By Serving Others~



# THE PATHFINDER

Website: [www.ctslutheran.net](http://www.ctslutheran.net)

E-Mail: [ctslutheranpf@gmail.com](mailto:ctslutheranpf@gmail.com)

Phone: (715) 762-4107

Publisher CTS

Volume 40 Issue 1 January 2024

## THE MEANING OF THE *Snowflake*

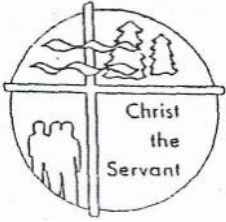
EVERY NEW SNOWFLAKE COMES TO THE EARTH  
AS A PICTURE OF OUR SAVIOUR'S BIRTH,  
BECAUSE THEY ARE SENT FROM UP ABOVE  
AND REMIND US OF GOD'S LOVE.

EACH ONE IS SO INTRICATE AND SMALL  
BECAUSE CHRIST SEES THE DETAILS OF US ALL,  
AND JUST AS TWO ARE NEVER THE SAME,  
THE LORD KNOWS AND CALLS US EACH BY NAME.

SNOWFLAKES GENTLY COVER THE WORLD IN WHITE AND HIDE  
WHAT WAS UNLOVELY FROM OUR SIGHT, SHOWING US HOW  
HE COVERS OUR SINS AND GIVES US HIS GRACE WHEN WE  
COME TO HIM.

SO MAY EVERY 'SNOWFLAKE' BRING CHRIST TO MIND  
AND IN EVERY BIT OF WHITE MAY YOU FIND  
A REASON TO CELEBRATE A NEW  
AND A REMINDER OF HIS LOVE FOR YOU.

BY HOLLEY GERTH



# THE PATHFINDER

Website: [www.ctslutheran.net](http://www.ctslutheran.net)

E-Mail: [ctslutheranpf@gmail.com](mailto:ctslutheranpf@gmail.com)

Phone: (715) 762-4107

Publisher CTS

Volume 40 Issue 1 January 2024



**AED Training:** Please stay after worship on January 7<sup>th</sup> for training on the brand new AED. The Melvolds will be leading the training on the use of the AED. They will also go over some simple first aid and a refresher on CPR. Please plan to attend this important training.

**Men's Group:** Men's group will be meeting over coffee and pastry on Jan 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM. The topic of study will be the Book of Job. All men are welcome to and encouraged to come!

**Annual Meeting:** The Annual Meeting will be January 21<sup>st</sup> immediately following worship. The agenda of the meeting will be posted on the front door. Come and hear a review of the past year and help us look forward to even more exciting ministry opportunities in 2024.

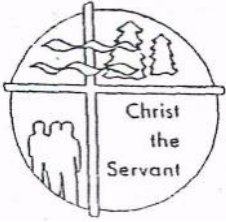
**Sleep In Heavenly Peace:** This ministry in Park Falls continues to need donations of pillows, beds in a bag, quilts, and sheet sets. They are all twin size beds for youth, age 4 through 17, in our community with no bed of their own. To volunteer in the ministry, please see the Melvolds. To donate money, see Beth Melvold. Bedding can be dropped off any time in the church office.

**Bible Study:** Bible study will be on January 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. We will be finishing the Amazing Light of Christ study that we started in Advent. This has been a delightful opportunity to see how the light shines in Biblical characters of Zechariah, Isaiah, Elizabeth, and Mary.

**Musician:** We are still looking for a once-a-month musician to fill in on Sunday morning. If you know someone that is interested, please see Pastor Gwen.

**The Lord's Cupboard:** The pantry could use more volunteers to work once a month on a Saturday morning from 8:30 – 11:00 AM. You must be able to lift 35 pounds and work on your weekend! See Pastor Gwen if you are interested.





# THE PATHFINDER

Website: [www.ctslutheran.net](http://www.ctslutheran.net)

E-Mail: [ctslutheranpf@gmail.com](mailto:ctslutheranpf@gmail.com)

Phone: (715) 762-4107

Publisher CTS

Volume 40 Issue 1 January 2024

## Volunteer Schedule January & February 2024

Date	Assisting Minister	Altar Guild	Coffee Hour	Ushers
January 7th	Kurt Wolff		Sarah Wolff	
January 14th				
January 21st				
January 28th				
February 4th				
February 11th				
February 14 Ash Wednesday				
February 18th				
February 25th				

~Christians Serving God By Serving Others~