

Website: www.ctslutheran.net

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Phone: (715) 762-4107

Publisher CTS

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THE CHOICE

It's quiet. It's early. My coffee is hot. The sky is still black. The world is still asleep. The day is coming.

In a few moments the day will arrive. It will roar down the track with the rising of the sun. The stillness of the dawn will be exchanged for the noise of the day. The calm of solitude will be replaced by the pounding pace of the human race. The refuge of the early morning will be invaded by decisions to be made and deadlines to be met. For the next twelve hours I will be exposed to the day's demands. It is now that I must make a choice.

Because of Calvary, I'm free to choose. And so I choose.

I choose love. No occasion justifies hatred; no injustice warrants bitterness. I choose love. Today I will love God and what God loves.

I choose joy. I will invite my God to be the God of circumstance. I will refuse the temptation to be cynical... the tool of the lazy thinker. I will refuse to see people as anything less than human beings, created by God. I will refuse to see any problem as anything less than an opportunity to see God.

I choose peace. I will live forgiven. I will forgive so that I may live.

I choose patience. I will overlook the inconveniences of the world. Instead of cursing the one who takes my place, I'll invite Him to do so. Rather than complain that the wait is too long, I will thank God for a moment to pray. Instead of clinching my fist at new assignments, I will face them with joy and courage.

I choose kindness. I will be kind to the poor, for they are alone. Kind to the rich, for they are afraid. And kind to the unkind, for such is how God has treated me.

I choose goodness. I will go without a dollar before I take a dishonest one. I will be overlooked before I will boast. I will confess before I will accuse. I choose goodness.

I choose faithfulness. Today I will keep my promises. My debtors will not regret their trust. My associates will not question my word. My wife will not question my love. And my children will never fear that their father will not come home.

I choose gentleness. Nothing is won by force. I choose to be gentle. If I raise my voice, may it be only in praise. If I clench my fist, may it be only in prayer. If I make a demand, may it be only of myself.

I choose self-control. I am a spiritual being. After this body is dead, my spirit will soar. I refuse to let what will rot, rule the eternal. I choose self-control. I will be drunk only by joy. I will be impassioned only by my faith. I will be influenced only by God. I will be taught only by Christ. I choose self-control.

Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithful-ness, gentleness, and self-control. To these I commit my day. If I succeed, I will give thanks. If I fail, I will seek His grace. And then, when this day is done, I will place my head on my pillow and rest.



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Pastor Gwen's February Office Hours:

Monday 1-4 PM Wednesday 2-5 PM



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



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



February Bible Readings

February 2, 2025 – 4th Sunday after Epiphany

First Lesson Jeremiah 1:4-10

Psalm 71:1-6

Second Lesson 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Gospel Reading Luke 4:21-30

February 9, 2025 - 5th Sunday after Epiphany

First Lesson Isaiah 6:1-713

Psalm 138

Second Lesson 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Gospel Reading Luke 5:1-11

February 16, 2025 – 6th Sunday after Epiphany

First Lesson Jeremiah 17:5-10

Psalm 1

Second Lesson 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Gospel Reading Luke 6:17-26

February 23, 2025 - 7th Sunday after Epiphany

First Lesson Genesis 43:3-11, 15

Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

Second Lesson 1 Corinthians 15:35-38,42-50

Gospel Reading Luke 6:27-28



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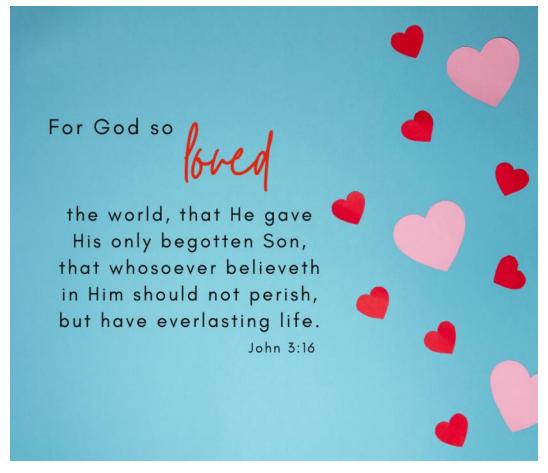


PLEASE REMEMBER THESE PEOPLE AND REQUESTS IN YOUR PRAYERS.

Health/Concerns: Olivia, Stephanie, Carrie, Meg, Carol, Debra, Joe, Autumn, Mitch, Jeff, Jill, Betty, Debbie, Theresa, Ann, Amir, Bill, Gail, Mary, Joan, and Dave.

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

Groups: CTS Church Council, Quilting Ministry, Adult Bible Studies, CTS Youth, those who are struggling with hunger and injustice in the world and the Sleep in Heavenly Peace Ministry.



~Christians Serving God By Serving Others~



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Love

LOVE IS PATIENT,
LOVE IS KIND.

IT DOES NOT ENVY, IT DOES NOT BOAST,
IT IS NOT PROUD.

IT DOES NOT DISHONOR OTHERS,
IT IS NOT SELF-SEEKING,
IT IS NOT EASILY ANGERED,
IT KEEPS NO RECORD OF WRONGS.
LOVE DOES NOT DELIGHT IN EVIL BUT
REJOICES WITH THE TRUTH.

IT ALWAYS PROTECTS, ALWAYS TRUSTS,

ALWAYS HOPES, ALWAYS PERSEVERES.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-8





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Bible Study: Come and join us for our study of "Getting Older and Wiser." We age everyday, yet it is a new day that presents new opportunities. Are we sure we are getting wiser as we grow older? We will find the answers because we all know getting older is not for "WHIMPS"!

Men's Group: Men's group will be meeting on February 8th at 8 AM. The topic of study is Grace. All men are welcome to and encouraged to come! If you have the book, please read Chapter 10.

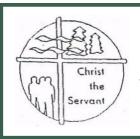
Assisting Ministers: All Seasoned and New Assisting Ministers are invited on Tuesday, February 11th from 2-4 PM to a workshop and training. We will share the importance of your opportunity to help lead worship. Get some reading tips, write some petitions for the prayers of the people and rediscover the joy of participating in worship. Please let Pastor Gwen know if you plan to attend.

Plastic, Plastic: We are still collecting plastic bags and film. We did receive one bench which is outside next to the sidewalk. We would like to get a matching bench for the other side.

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. Any questions regarding the ministry, please see the Melvolds.

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.

Ash Wednesday: Ash Wednesday is March 5th, which is a bit later. We will continue our Lenten program of the "Holden Evening Prayer" on Wednesdays sung by Mark Donner. We will be discovering what "Common Sense's" we have to understand what Jesus did for us in his life and on the cross. Sundays we also have a great program instore. So come join our walk to the cross.



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Volunteer Schedule February and March 2025

DATE	ASSISTING MINISTER	ALTAR GUILD	COFFEE HOUR	USHERS
FEBRUARY 2ND	Kurt Wolff	Kurt & Sarah Wolff	Sarah Wolff	
FEBRUARY 9TH	Jann Clark		Chuck & Barb Schindhelm	
FEBRUARY 16TH	Barb Schindhelm		Jen & Lauren BeBeau	
FEBRUARY 23RD	Beth Melvold		Liz Carpenter	
MARCH 2ND				
MARCH 5TH ASH WEDNESDAY				
MARCH 9TH				
MARCH 12TH				
MARCH 16TH				
MARCH 19TH				
MARCH 23RD				
MARCH 26TH				
MARCH 30TH				