

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
1222 Vocke Road, LaVale, Maryland
Email: christlutheran@atlanticbbn.net
New website: CLCLaVale.org.

Wednesday Service (In-Person & 6:30pm Zoom)

April 30, 2025 –6:30pm

*** Call to Worship**

P: O God of life, we gather here to worship you.

C: We sing praises to your name, and give thanks for your goodness.

P: You have made life for us full of possibilities.

C: We sing praises to your name.

P: And you have defeated our enemy, death.

C: We give thanks for your goodness.

*** Gathering Hymn 715**

“Christ, Be Our Light”

*** Greeting**

P: The grace of our risen Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

*** The Prayer of the Day**

Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Reading: Acts 9:1-20

¹ Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” ⁵ He asked, “Who are you, Lord?” The reply came, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” ⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” He answered, “Here I am, Lord.” ¹¹ The Lord said to him, “Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” ¹³ But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.” ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶ I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” ¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰ and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”] Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Homily

Pastor Daniel Swanson

*** Prayers of the People**

*** Words of Institution**

*** 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.**

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

*** POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God’s grace.

C: Amen.

*** BLESSING**

P: The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, ✚ Savior, and Spirit,
light your way with resurrection dawn,
now and always.

C: Amen.

*** Sending Hymn 726**

“Light Dawns on a Weary World”

*** Dismissal**

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

L: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

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BUDGET - At the April Church Council meeting, the Council enacted a spending freeze of all non-budgeted items. The spending freeze will be in place until the end of June, at which time it will be re-evaluated. It should be noted that the need for the spending freeze has nothing to do with the roof repairs. Those repairs are being paid for as decided at our recent Congregational meeting. This freeze is based solely on our offering income vs our expenses. The expense vs. budget numbers are reported weekly in the bulletin. They show that we are running a deficit. While we expected a deficit this budget year, it is larger than expected. In addition, we are soon entering into Summer when our contributions historically decrease (due to people on vacation, etc.). As for budgeted items, we ask all Committee Chairs to be thoughtful in spending their budget especially if it is something that could wait a few months. If a non-budgeted item comes up and it is felt it can't wait, please notify Shirley who will pass it along to the Executive Council for consideration. We are all in this together. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation. Dianne Short, Council President

Your Parish Nurses love you!!!! Therefore, we will be doing blood pressure screenings on **the third Sunday of the month** in the Fellowship Hall following service. Take this opportunity to have yours checked!

Yard Sale Weeks – week of June 22 (sales on June 27 & 28), week of June 29 (sale on July 5), *If needed*, week of July 6. **We need stuff!!!! Start gathering.** We do have limited space if you need to bring early. See Shirley.

To all of the DE-MD Congregation and Ministries from the Synod Hunger Task Force – **“Annual Noisy Change offering”** for our Synod Assembly on May 30-31! All funds will go to food pantries and ministries in the DE-MD Synod. **We will be holding our Noisy Offering here at CLC on Sunday, May 18th.** Please start saving your change!



Garden News! May is full of gardening opportunities!

Spring Cleanup and Planting Day, May 3, 10:00! Garden Class – Choosing Vegetable Varieties, 11:00 with Sarah Llewellyn from the UMD Extension Office!

Summer Planting Day, May 17, 10:00! Plant Giveaway with the Reach Meal May 17 (afternoon) contact Kathy Swanson for details!

Our roof repairs have been completed and we hope the congregation will make the Maintenance Fund along with their Regular Offerings a priority. If they do so, we can build our reserves back up quickly.

