

Christ Lutheran Church

10827 N. Main Street
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Mantua, OH 44255

Rev. Blake J. Martzowka

Kayla Ballentine

Administrative Assistant

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Sunday Live Stream: YouTube

Sunday School 9:45 am

Sunday Worship 11:00 am



April 2025

Christ's Messenger

The Heart of Christ, in the Midst of Greater Mantua



CHRIST *Lutheran* CHURCH

2025 Officers

Council:

Melisa Pozwick	President
Anna Lee Heint	Vice-President
Diane Lottig	Secretary
Laura Cleavenger	Treasurer
John Heint	Financial Sec

Committee Chairpersons

Ron Stamm	Head Elder
Katherine Flynn	Head Deacon
John Clark	Head Trustee
Christina Eaton	Education Director

A Message from Pastor Blake...

When the Day of the Lord is described in Holy Scripture (that is, the appearance of Christ in Glory), the governing image is restoration, not destruction. Don't get me wrong: there are images of destruction associated with the Day of the Lord (many as a matter of fact!), but I would argue that they are not the focus of this event. The Day of the Lord has to do with the restoration of *this* creation. So, it shouldn't surprise us that in the Prophet Isaiah the Day of the Lord doesn't involve the destruction of human civilization and its riches, but rather the dedication of human civilization and its riches to the one true God (Isaiah 60:9). Moreover, when it comes to the blessings we have received from the Lord in this age, Christ promises that these blessings (houses, family, children, lands) and so much more will be given to those who left such things behind for His sake (Matthew 19:29). Hence St. Peter refers to this day as a time of "restoration" (Luke 22:32; Acts 3:21). St. Paul also speaks about this day as a time of restoration when all of creation will share in the Glory of the Sons of God and be delivered from bondage to corruption (Romans 8:20-21).

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Pastor's Message Continues

Images of destruction serve this primary focus. The image of destruction doesn't have to do with creation in itself, but rather the sinful and broken state within which creation presently exists. St. Paul says that the present *form* of this world is passing away (1 Corinthians 7:31). The present form of this world being human sin, death, illness, weakness, injustice, and so on. The destruction of these evils on the Day of the Lord means liberation from sin, death, and the devil for God's good creation. It is no accident, then, that in the Old Testament as well as the Book of Revelation the coming age, the kingdom of God, is described as a heavenly city with human art and riches (Revelation 21). Creation and the blessings we have in this life are not evil in themselves. What is evil is how these things are misused by sinners. The problem is sin. And there will be no more sin in the age to come for all who enter will have had their sins washed away.

How does this relate to April? Well, this April we will be celebrating Easter, the resurrection of our Lord. In the resurrection of our Lord, we do not see the destruction of the things that made Him human, the things that made Him a unique individual in this life (such as His history and past). Rather, we see a glorification and transformation of the things that made Him human and the things that make Him a unique individual, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Mary and Joseph. His human body is not destroyed; it appears in Glory to the disciples (Philippians 3:21). His past has not been erased; rather, the marks of His past (His wounds) become a symbol of His victory over death (Luke 24:39; John 20:20). He does not abandon the joys of this present age; rather He enjoys them anew as He eats with His disciples (Luke 24:41-43). In the resurrection of our Lord, we see a glimpse of what God has promised to accomplish on the Day of the Lord for us when Christ appears in Glory to make all things new (1 John 3:2; Revelation 21:5). The beauty and blessings of this life will only get so much better, imaginably better, when God's reign is established in power. With this fervent joy and expectation of the last day we cry: Christ is risen!

Pastor Blake



Worship Schedule

“Serving With a Heart Like Jesus”

DATES TO REMEMBER

	April 6 th Communion	April 13 th Palm Sunday	April 18 th Good Friday	April 20 th Communion/Easter	April 27 th
Greeter	Pat South	Melisa Pozwick	Jameson Flynn	Barb Lange	Kat Flynn
Acolyte	Abigail Flynn	Natalie Goodell	N/A	Makenna B	Jameson Flynn
YACA	Ryan Goodell	N/A	N/A	Jameson Flynn	N/A
Reader	Becca Goodell	Tim Snodgrass		Ron Stamm	Anna Lee Heint
Ushers	Kat Flynn	Brian Lottig		Joanne Q	Melisa Pozwick
	Jameson Flynn	Katie Toothman		Larry Q	Jon Pozwick
Media	Melisa Pozwick	Christina Eaton		Melisa Pozwick	Christina Eaton
Power Point	Jon Pozwick	Amy Toothman		Jon Pozwick	Lexi Ballard
Deacon	Tracy Stamm	Joanne Q	Kat Flynn	Kat Flynn	Larry Q
Elder	Brian Lottig	Brian Lottig	Brian Lottig	Brian Lottig	Brian Lottig
Cross Bearer	N/A	Jon Pozwick	N/A	Lexi Ballard	N/A

Catechism
Tuesdays
3:30 PM

Midweek Lent @ St. Thomas
April 2nd & 9th
Supper 6 PM
Service 7 PM

Acolyte Training
April 6th
After church

Women's Guild Meeting
April 10th
6:30 PM

Community Egg Hunt
April 12th
11 AM – 1 PM

Loaves & Fishes
April 16th
5 - 6:30 PM

Council Meeting
April 27th
After church

Evangelism Meeting
May 4th
After church

4 C's Local Food Pantry

April donations being collected are
Spaghetti Noodles
Pasta Sauce
Canned Potatoes
Dish Soap

Please place donations in the basket
in the narthex marked "4 C's"

Christ Lutheran Church is a drop-off
location for the 4C's

MEMORY CHALLENGE VERSE:

"And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."

Revelation 21:5

Service Updates:

Midweek Lent Services will be held at St. Thomas this year. There will be a soup supper at 6 PM and service begins at 7 PM. Please note, there will be **NO** weekly bible study during Lent. Services continue, April 2nd & 9th. Maundy Thursday will also be at St. Thomas on April 17th at 7 PM.

Join us here at **Christ Lutheran** for *Palm Sunday* (April 13th at 11 AM), *Good Friday* (April 18th at 7 PM), and *Easter Sunday* (April 20th at 11 AM). There will be an Easter Brunch after the service courtesy of the Deacons. If you would like to donate a dish please see Kat Flynn. Note: Easter Lily orders are due April 13th at the latest. If you do not wish to take the plant home it will be donated to a local nursing home. Thank you.

Pancake Breakfast 2025!



Youth Education

Christina Eaton
Christian Ed Director

Sunday School

Community Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 12th 11am to 1pm

It's going to be a little different this year! Hunting for eggs and turning them in for candy and a prize.

We are collecting donations of candy and small toys to stuff the eggs.

Mantua Police will attend. Mantua Fire Dept will have touch a truck.

Here is the link of wish list items for easter egg hunt:

<https://www.amazon.com/registries/g/guest-view/2BHWB2OH6U9VM>

The last day of Sunday School will be May 18th. We will be having an end of year celebration party. Everyone is invited!

Vacation Bible School will be held June 16th - 20th.
Keep an eye out for more info to come!



Sunday School

9:45-10:45 am

3 classrooms

Ages 3-6yrs Hannah Owen
Ages 7-12yrs Christina Eaton
Youth 13+ Melisa Pozwick

Snack sign up posted on Sunday School board.

Youth News

Thank you for all the help and support with the

Pancake Breakfast.

We are approximately \$2800 from our goal. Our next fundraiser will be Peterson Nuts. Watch for details.

Gloria Dei Youth Worship

April 13th 6 to 8pm

Meet at 5:15 to carpool from church.

Please let Christina or Melisa know if you are attending.

Save the date for the
Pancake Breakfast 2026-
3/21/26 (God willing!)



Women's Ministry

All Women in the
Congregation

LOAVES AND FISHES COMMUNITY MEALS

April 16th 5:00-6:30 pm

The free meals are served the 3rd Wednesday of every month in the Christ Lutheran Church downstairs Fellowship Hall.

If you and your friends would like to help (you don't have to be a member to help), contact Diane Lottig at (330) 274-2868 for what is needed.

Women's Guild Meeting:
April 10th at 6:30 PM

All women of the congregation are welcome.

-The Women's Guild has been in charge of the summer market in the lower parking lot for 11 years. The original Mantua Farmers Market was started in 2005 by the Mantua Rotary Club but came under the leadership of our group in 2014. From 2014-2024 it raised \$8,239.06 for church projects. Broken down, this amounts to \$6,526.50 in vendor fees and \$1,712.56 in extra donations. Last year the market was slow so a few changes were made. Here is the information for the 2025 season. It was renamed Mantua Variety Market to reflect the true nature of the market. You can sell anything- produce, bakery, jam, honey, eggs, syrup, plants, flowers, garage sale items- as long as it is legal. Sales are on Saturdays- 9 AM – 1 PM. Season runs from May 17-August 23 (closed July 5). Vendor fees are only \$1.00 per date. Please consider this opportunity to make some cash for only a \$1.00 fee. Call Diane Lottig 330-274-2868.

-For those interested in the recipe for "Lutheran Noodles"-Kathie Havener shared the original recipe from the 1960's from Mary Jesse with us. See Diane for your copy.



SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, May 10th 1pm to 3pm

Generational Tea

Who is invited? Ladies of the congregation -child and child at heart.
Big hats & floral dresses suggested.

Bring your own China and a story: how did you acquire, does that pattern mean something special? Don't have fancy teapot or China?

Bring your everyday kitchenware and a story to share about you mom or grandma.

We will provide: entertainment, Light refreshments, tea, and lemonade.

Reservations required. Sign up in the narthex.

More details to come.

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE:

The new process of reserving the church is going great. Please continue to contact Kayla with your events requests. It can be for months out, which helps to make sure you get the dates you would like.

We are planning with the youth to help get organized for the trip in July to New Orleans. We will make sure there are pictures of the event and information once we come back. We are getting together monthly to review the message that the youth will be receiving at the gathering. We are trying to connect with the youth and adult leader from Valley in the next month and hopefully monthly until the gathering, so we get to know each other before we leave. There is 1 adult leader, 3 boys and 3 girls are going. We are starting to finalize all the numbers and will be able to report out an estimate next month. Look for more detail as we get closer.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 440-547-3027 or send an email to clcmantua737@yahoo.com.

COUNCIL MEETING:

Our next council meeting will be held on **April 27th** after service. We welcome anyone who would like to attend the meeting.



ELDERS:

Hearts from Christ – “Little children, let us love not in word or talk but in deed and truth.” (1 John 3:18) With this admonition in mind, the Elders at Christ are starting a new charitable fund to assist members and friends of Christ Lutheran Church who find themselves in need. This fund will be called “Hearts from Christ.” It is established to provide financial assistance for active members of Christ Lutheran Church who are in need as well as to purchase a memento of care for active members of Christ Lutheran Church and friends of the congregation going through difficult times. If someone needs assistance, they should contact Pastor Blake and the elders. Any request will be kept strictly confidential. This fund will be completely dependent upon free-will offerings given by the congregation. We will be collecting these funds after church for the month of March for any who are interested in giving. You can donate to the Hearts from Christ fund anytime of the year by marking an envelope dedicated to “Hearts from Christ” and placing it in the offering plate.

God answers prayer.

At Christ Lutheran, we know the power of prayer.

Ezekiel 22:30 says, "I looked for a man among them who would build up the wall and stand before me IN THE GAP on behalf of the land."

GAP, (God Answers Prayer), is one of these prayer ministries. Those who serve in this ministry serve in the gap that Ezekiel wrote of as they are available to pray for people.

Please contact Barb Goodell who will begin the prayer chain for your need.

GAP MINISTRY

Barb Goodell	330-274-2161
Hannah Owen	330-931-0839
Kelly Britt	330-357-1101
Diane Lottig	330-274-2868
Linda Hobson	330-562-8327
June Zamecnik	330-281-7202
Tracy Stamm	330-571-0304
Shirley Bellar	330-281-8327
Anna Lee Heinl	330-842-2080
Joanne Quesenberry	330-274-2991
Christina Eaton	234-703-9735
Pat South	330-257-0948
Ellen Froelich	330-274-2081

Birthday Blessings on your special day and throughout the year!

Lennon Ricksecker	4/8
Shannon Goodrich	4/9
Braylon Head	4/19
Logan Goodrich	4/27
Janice Kilroy	4/29
Logan Ballentine	4/30



Prayers for Hope, Healing, Comfort & Guidance

Members

Corey Flynn, Dan Meyers, Janice Kilroy

Young Families

The Ballard/Eaton Family, The Ballentines, The Flynns, The Goodells, The Goodrichs, The Koerlins, The Martzowkas, The Owens, The Pozwicks, The Rickseckers, The Sandricks, The Swires, The Toothmans, The Tutwilers

Shut-ins

Linda Koerlin, Tom Briggs, Jill Kravcisin, Becky Krichbaum

Friends & Family

Steven Blunk, Patty & Denny Pesecky, Linda Havener, Lisa Bey, Rick Kilpatrick, Sam Weise, Dylan Graybeal & Klarissa Schott, Jim Flynn, Dwight Husk, Jerry & Theresa Higgins

Military Service

Caleb Dean Pete, Robert South, Owen Heinl Monte Stamm

Baptismal Birthdays

Katie Toothman – April 1st
Barbara Lange – April 4th
Tracy Stamm – April 7th
Lily Tutwiler – April 8th

Wedding Anniversaries

None