



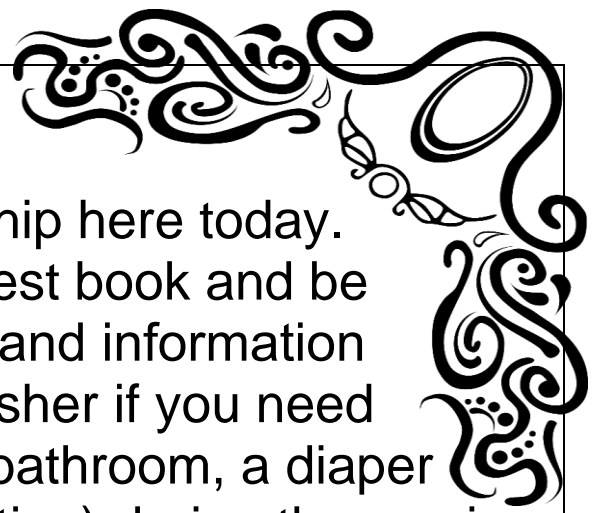
**Baptism of Our Lord
January 12, 2025
Recalling our Own Baptisms**

**Christus Victor Lutheran Church
9833 Harford Road
Parkville, MD 21234
(410) 668-8089**

**Web Site: Christusvictoronline.org
Email: office@christusvictoronline.org**

[Mission Statement: God calls us to unite in Christ, grow in faith, serve in love, and share the good news.](#)

WELCOME TO ALL,
ESPECIALLY OUR VISITORS.



We praise God for all who worship here today. If you are a visitor, please sign our guest book and be sure to take a visitor's bag of goodies and information about our church. Be sure to see an usher if you need anything (a quiet room for children, a bathroom, a diaper changer, or the parlor for quiet meditation) during the service.

Absolutely everyone is welcome to take communion. Lutherans believe that the very presence of Jesus Christ means the bread is his body and the wine is his blood. Communion is a meaningful vehicle for the Holy Spirit to enter us fully and have us participate in Christ's death and resurrection. God invites you to God's own table for love, forgiveness, and fellowship. Parents may decide if they want their young children to commune or receive a blessing, but please know that all ages are welcome to commune in the Evangelical Lutheran faith.

. You are absolutely invited to everything Christus Victor Church does, including all fellowships, events, and after-worship activities. La casa de Dios, tu casa.

Note to Everyone: Please, please, please read the announcements at the end of this bulletin!!!

WORSHIP NOTE: THE * MEANS "PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE" FOR THAT PART OF THE WORSHIP. YOU MAY SIT WHENEVER YOU FEEL THE NEED.

God's blessings on all who serve:

PASTOR: Ellen B. Krich

DEACON: Shelly Shrader

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Taylor Armstrong

TECHNOLOGY: Meghan Collins

LAY ASSISTANT: Ugonnaya Obineme

READER: Jim Steadman

USHERS: Andrea Zahirsky, Dave Burkins

ACOLYTE: Aaron Depew

ALTAR GUILD: Andrea Zahirsky, Irene Ruby, Virginia McCurdy, Cathleen Burkins, Ellen Marsheck



PRELUDE:

GATHERING

Please stand as you are able and face the cross in the back of the sanctuary.

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P. In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

P. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

P. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P. In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG: *Shall We Gather at the River
(ELW 423)

***GREETING**

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

***KYRIE (ELW p. 203)**

***CANTICLE OF PRAISE “GLORIA” (ELW p. 204)**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

A. Let us pray.

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:1-7

A reading from Isaiah.

Near the end of Israel’s exile in Babylon, God promises to bring the people home. They need no longer be afraid, because the one who formed, created, and called them by name now redeems them from all their enemies. God declares them precious and honored, and God loves them.

¹ But now thus says the LORD,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.

² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,

and the flame shall not consume you.
³ For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
⁴ Because you are precious in my sight,
and honored, and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.
⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;
⁶ I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
and to the south, "Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth—
⁷ everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 29 (SUNG)

¹ Ascribe to the | LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and strength.
² **Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness.**
³ The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of |
glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the | mighty waters.
⁴ **The voice of the LORD is a pow- | erful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a | voice of splendor.**
⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the ce- | dars of Lebanon;
⁶ **the LORD makes Lebanon skip | like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.**
⁷ The voice | of the LORD
bursts forth in | lightning flashes.
⁸ **The voice of the LORD | shakes the wilderness;**

the LORD shakes the wilder- | ness of Kadesh.

⁹ The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the | forests bare.

And in the temple of the LORD all are | crying, “Glory!”

¹⁰ **The LORD sits enthroned a- | bove the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king for- | evermore.**

¹¹ O LORD, give strength | to your people;
give them, O LORD, the bless- | ings of peace.

SECOND READING: Acts 8:14-17

A reading from Acts.

Peter and John are sent to support the new Christians in Samaria, a group that was recently baptized after hearing the good news of Christ through the preaching of Philip. Here the Samaritans receive the gift of the Holy Spirit in the laying on of hands.

¹⁴ Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵ The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶ (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷ Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 205)**

***GOSPEL: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The reading opens with questions about the identity of the Messiah. John the Baptist insists that he is not the Messiah; instead he points ahead to one who is coming. And whether the voice of God was heard by all or only by Jesus, God settles the matter: Jesus is God’s beloved Son.

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he

might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized* (ELW 304)

COUNCIL INSTALLATION

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

***APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

**and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P. With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A. You call us by name and form us. We give thanks for the gift of baptism. Nurture the baptized and equip people sent to proclaim the good news. Be with all those on our newly installed council as they endeavor to follow your guidance and always do your will, in truth and love. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A. Your voice sounds over the waters. Speak words of healing over the rivers and lakes, seas, oceans, and ports: the Chesapeake Bay, the Patapsco River and our Inner Harbor. Heeding your voice, lead us to care for water, and the land and creatures it nourishes. We pray that everyone on earth would have clean drinking water. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A. You are with us in challenging times. Draw near to all who are ill, undergoing treatment, or recovering from surgery. We name before you all on our parish prayer list.... and others we name aloud ... Accompany individuals and families affected by addiction or mental health challenges. Uphold each person as your beloved. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

A. You draw us into community. Help those who are suffering the devastation of Californian wildfires and be with those whose lands are ravaged by blizzards, and flooding. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

A. You grant us peace. We pray for the end of warfare. Comfort all who grieve. Dwell with us in this life and, at the last, join us with the saints whom you have created, formed, and named. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

A. We rejoice with Ugonnaya Obineme, her family and friends, as she celebrates her birthday. We bless you Lord God for the ministry she has here at Christus Victor, and we ask that she receive the greatest gift of all, a closer walk with you, as she moves forward in discerning her vocation. May she have a multitude of love, joy, and glorious happy years ahead with her dear family. We thank you that Ugonnaya is a "woman of God," and that you will always be with her. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

P. We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.
Amen.

OFFERING

MUSICAL MEDITATION

***OFFERTORY: "We are an Offering" (ELW 692)**

***OFFERING PRAYER**

A. Let us pray.
Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your

care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

***DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

***SANCTUS (ELW p. 207)**

***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

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

COMMUNION

AGNUS DEI (ELW p. 208)

COMMUNION HYMN: *Baptized and Set Free* (ELW 453)

***HYMN: *God Be with You Til We Meet Again* (ELW 536)**

***THE FINAL BLESSING**

***SENDING SONG: This Little Light of Mine (ELW 677)**

***DISMISSAL**

Share the Good News.
Thanks be to God.

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Care and Concern

Gayle Amrhine – Fighting breast cancer (Former member of Christus Victor)

JoAnn Bakie – Health Issues (Bea Walshinsky)

Daniel Beauford – Health Issues (Obinemes)

Greg Bryant – (Stansburys)

Kelly Stansbury Bryant – (Stansburys)

Janet & Tommy Burkhart – (Stansburys)

Daryl Burman – (Howard Stansbury)

Rob Coppage – Battling cancer (Nephew of Birdie Patrick)

Ola Denues – Recuperating from surgery (Cousin of Karen Biedronski)

Dawn Dipietro – (Stansburys)

Helena Discher – Health Issues (Friend of Jan Williams)

Anna Fowler – Pray for healing that she might no longer need oxygen (Jan Williams)

Albert Galinn – Surgery (Friend of Karen & Phil Biedronski)

George – Bone marrow cancer. (Joyce McMahon).

Loretta Gleason – Pray for healing. (Birdie Patrick)

Marie Greb* - Pray for her left leg to be healed from pain and strengthened enough for standing and walking.

Jessie – Pray for strength. (Len & Sandy Petrovich)

Nancy Kiefner – Health Issues (Stansburys)

Robert Kruelle – Kidney health issues (Neighbor of Irene Ruby)

Jacqi & Lacey Lockard – (Stansburys)

Joe Marsheck* - Pray for him to find strength, peace and joy with the Lord holding him in his arms.

Roger McPherson – (Kelly Ruby and Joan Ruby).
Rosemary – Stage 4 pancreatic cancer
Erika Scarcella –Seizures (McCreas).
Jake Sittler* - Pray for strength and continued wellness.
Rosemary Sommers – Stroke (Pat Eichner).
Terrie Sommers – Health Issues (Pat Eichner).
Nick Spinnato – Health concerns (Linda Meyer)
Ginny Thompson – Numerous ongoing health issues
 (Merle Vogel)
Michele Thompson – Health Issues (Bea Walshinsky)
Carol Tracey – Serious Health Issues (Friend of Jane
 Bowie)
Tyler Walsh – Motorcycle accident (Linda Meyer)
Molly Ward – Health Issues (Leights)
Grace Webb – Friend of Virginia McCurdy
Billy Wilhelm – Fighting blood cancer and Myasthenia
 Gravis. (Karen Biedronski)

*member CVLC

Members at Home or in Rehab:

Diane Frederick	Jeanne George	Susan Parker
Jim Umerley	Bea Walshinsky	Jack Zimmerman

Attendance: 1/5/2025

Sanctuary/In-Person Worship 10:00AM – 67
 Sunday School - 8
 Facebook Live – 160

Count Our Blessings: 1/5/2025

Weekly Offering - \$13,837.62
 Online Giving 1/3/2025 – \$1,697.19
 Victor's Vittles - \$1,230.00
 Hall Usage - \$250.00

Thank you for your support!

As the new year begins, we will have a special stewardship program, which we believe you will receive with joy, as it unfolds. Please remember to take your offering envelopes from the narthex if you are not an online giver.

Happy Birthday Wishes: Jan. 18 – Ugonnaya Obineme

Come out and have a good dinner or a carry-out from **Angelino's Restaurant at 9948 Harford Road on Monday, January 20, 2025**, from 2-10 p.m. and help raise money for our church. Christus Victor will receive 15% of all money we spend there. Be sure to grab a flier to present at the time of purchase.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sunday, Jan. 12 – 9:00AM Sunday School, 10AM New Council Members' Induction with after-service visitor training.
Monday, Jan. 13 - Council 7:00PM
Monday, Jan. 13 – OSSD New Testament Class
Monday, Jan. 13 - Women's and Men's NA Group 7:00PM
Tuesday, Jan. 14 - Christus Comforters 9:30AM
Tuesday, Jan. 14 – Victor's Vittles Volunteers 11:00AM
Tuesday, Jan. 14 – Scouts 6:30PM
Wednesday, Jan. 15 – Oakleaf Articles Due
Wednesday, Jan. 29. – 10-12 AM, FFF Candle-Making and Tea
Friday, Jan. 17 – New Beginnings 7:00PM
Saturday, Jan. 18 – Victor's Vittles 9:00-11:00AM
Monday, Jan. 20 – Fundraiser at Angelino's Restaurant 2:00-10:00PM

Attention Visitors and those desiring to Visit:

Today, directly after the service, we will have training for new and current visitors to refresh you and bless you to give communion and visit our shut-ins and those in rehabilitation or the hospital. Please come for the brief training with Pastor, where we will unveil a calendar.

Join us for a morning tea, sponsored by FFF, where we'll make candles for your Candlemas candle and your personal enjoyment. We'll also enjoy a fellowship with different kinds of delicious teas plus scones and other goodies. The date and time are Wednesday, January 29th, from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Please sign up in the narthex so we'll be sure to have enough supplies.

VICTOR'S VITTLES:

**January 18th – Joyce Kane, Sandy Petrovich
Driver Pick-up January 17th – Frank Rose
More drivers are desperately needed.**

Victors Vittles Food Drive!

Please help us stock up our regular family foods by bringing in the following:

January: Pancake Mix

February: Rice/Rice packet dinners

March: Peanut Butter

2024 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Linda Meyer, President	410.215.0356
Andrea Zahirsky, V.P. & Administration	410.668.8165
Linda McMahon, Secretary	410.528.3221
Helen Tennant, Treasurer	410.661.0686
Michael Schumann, Worship & Music	410.665.0702
Sandy Petrovich, Christian Education	410.241.8814
Helen Tennant, Social Ministry/Fellowship	410.661.0686
Howard Stansbury, Property	410.529.3010
Andrea Zahirsky, Admin.	410.668.8165
Kelly Ruby, Mutual Ministry	410.274.9156
Dave Murray, Evangelism	443.469.2933
Stephanie Vancura, FFF	410-336-2364

Church Contacts

Pastor:	Ellen Krich, 410-236-9115 pastor@christusvictoronline.org
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P.A./Fin Sec:	Sharon Ibex, Ofc. 410-668-8089 office@christusvictoronline.org
Sunday School:	Sandy Petrovich, 410-444-7947
Oakleaf Editor:	Karen Biedronski, 410-529-9405 charmcitystamper@verizon.net
Victor's Vittles:	Carol Stansbury, 410-529-3010
Lay Assistants:	Linda Meyer, 410-215-0356
Ushers:	Sherry Simpkins, 410-661-7568
Youth Group:	Gordon Krause, 410-812-6362