

# *Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church*

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Deacon Bonnie Vize, Organist

*October 25, 2020*

*Note: All Hymns are printed in the back of the bulletin.*

**PRELUDE - "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" Sowash**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OPENING HYMN #654 - "The Church's One Foundation" (vss. 1, 3, 5) (Printed in the back of the bulletin.)**

**PASTORAL GREETING**

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**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

God is the one in whom we are called to take refuge. God is our ever-present help in times of trouble; therefore, we will not be afraid even though the earth should change and the mountains shake in the heart of the sea. God is in our midst saying, "Be still and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth." Let us come before our Creator acknowledging our need for forgiveness and our dependence upon Him for all of life.

**We acknowledge before you, O God, that we are often drawn to false teachings, especially those that condemn the behavior of others instead of admitting our own sinfulness and failings. Search our hearts, O God, and forgive us. Help us to seek your truth in all things, because only your truth will set us free.**

*Silence for reflection*

It is by the grace of God that we have been saved through Jesus our Savior, who died that we might live. God loves us with an everlasting love and forgives us all our sins. Today salvation has come to this house and we are all changed and set free. **Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

**Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## FIRST READING - Psalm 46

<sup>1</sup>God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. <sup>2</sup>Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea; <sup>3</sup>though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult. <sup>4</sup>There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. <sup>5</sup>God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day. <sup>6</sup>The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away. <sup>7</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. <sup>8</sup>Come now, regard the works of the LORD, what desolations God has brought up-on the earth; <sup>9</sup>behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire. <sup>10</sup>“Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.” <sup>11</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

This is the Word of the Lord.

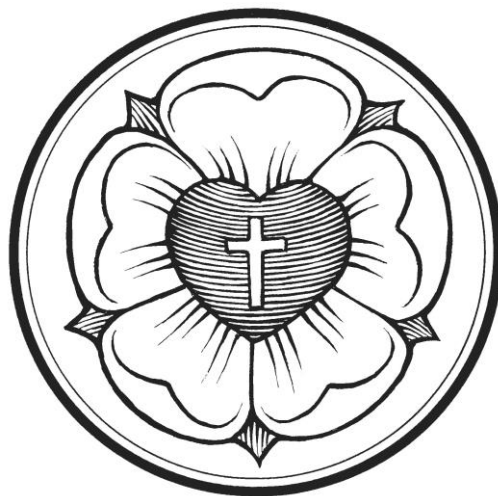
**Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING - Romans 3:19-28

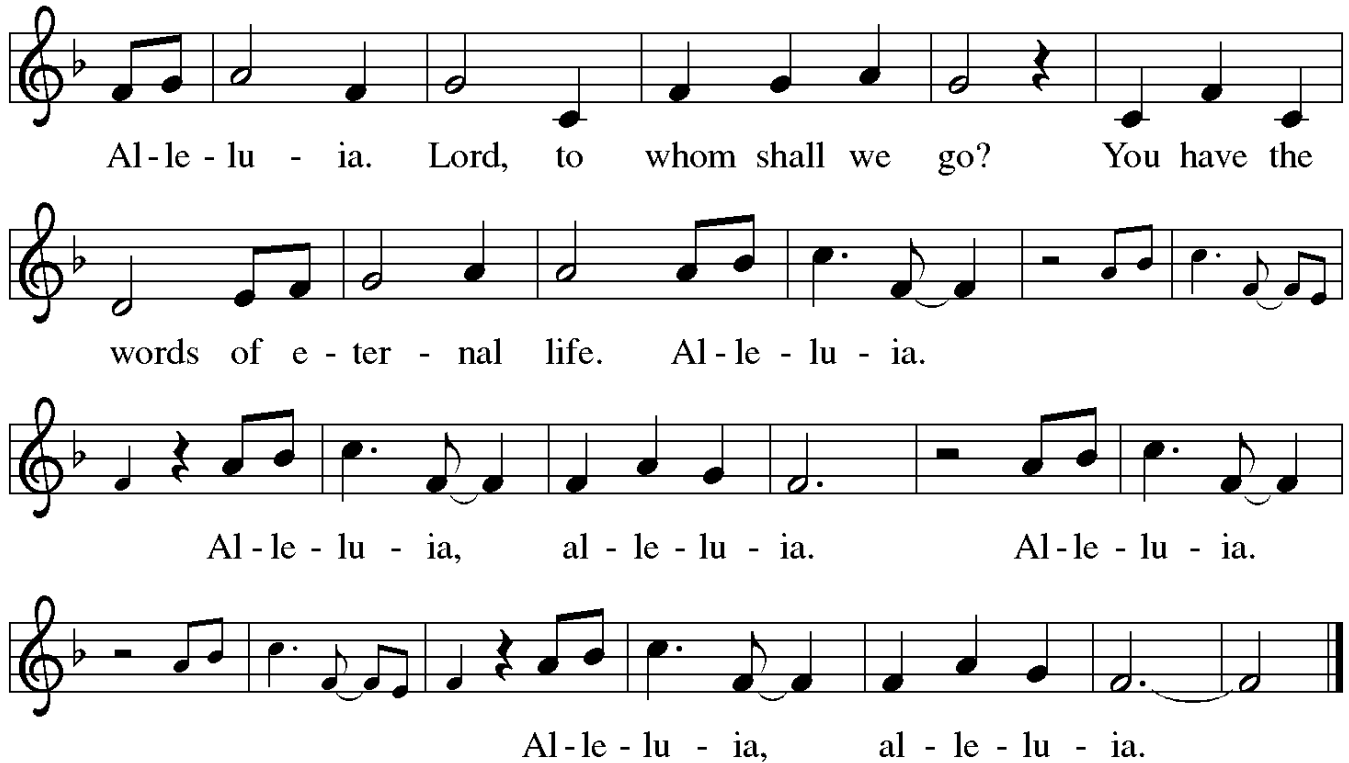
<sup>19</sup>Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup>For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. <sup>21</sup>But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, <sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, <sup>23</sup>since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; <sup>24</sup>they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; <sup>26</sup>it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. <sup>27</sup>Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. <sup>28</sup>For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**



## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al-le - lu - ia.  
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.  
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

This is the good news according to St. John.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## GOSPEL - John 8:31-36

<sup>31</sup>Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; <sup>32</sup>and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."  
<sup>33</sup>They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?" <sup>34</sup>Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup>The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. <sup>36</sup>So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

**HYMN OF THE DAY #504 - "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" (Printed in the back of the bulletin.)**

## 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**

With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Renew and inspire the church in the freedom of the gospel, O God. Where the church is in error, reform it. Where the church speaks your truth, strengthen it. Where the church is divided, unify it. Ignite in us the working of the Holy Spirit. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

As the earth changes, as mountains shake and the waters roar, may we care for this planet as a holy habitation for all living things. Sustain all peoples and lands recovering from natural disasters of any kind. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Guide areas of the world divided or traumatized by conflict, especially in our own land. Free all from slavery and human trafficking, and protect all in harm's way. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Release those living in bondage to debts, chronic pain, or addiction. Grant healing to those who are ill. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

In this family of faith, we give thanks for courageous voices that have remained firm in their commitment to the one who frees us from sin and death. Centered in your grace, unify us in the hope of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Even in death, you free us and give us a place in your house. We give thanks for our ancestors who have shown us truth and freedom, especially Martin Luther and those who work for the renewal of the church. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

Let us pray for God's kingdom to come here, now and forever:

**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.**

**BENEDICTION**

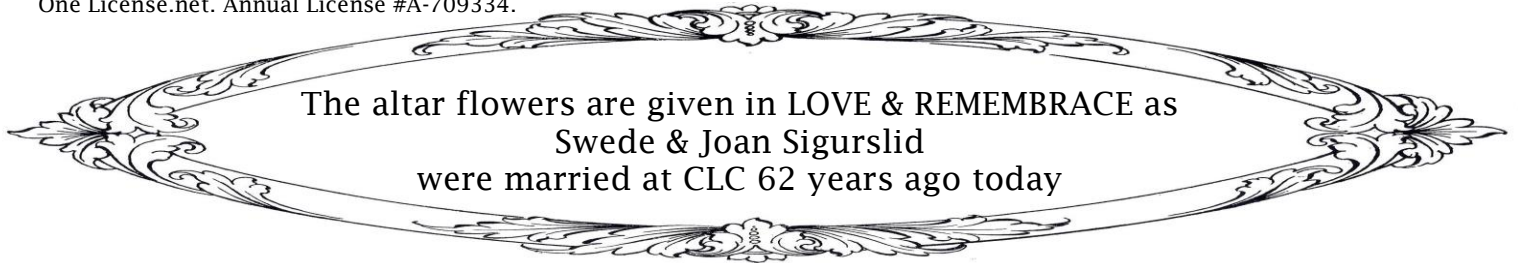
**SENDING HYMN #517 - "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast In Your Word" (Printed in the back of the bulletin.)**

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. And serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude - "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" Luther**

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*Thanksgiving Meals for the Hungry*

Thanksgiving is right around the corner. The need in our community is great. The Thanksgiving meal will be handled differently this year due to circumstances with the virus. Instead of you donating the food we are asking for monetary donations towards the meal. We will do the shopping this year. One meal which will include a turkey, consists of a box of Jello, a can of cranberries, a box of Stove Top stuffing, a box of brownie mix, a can of vegetables, a box of corn muffin mix, a can of turkey gravy, a box of instant mashed potatoes, a can of yams and a can of fruit will cost approximately \$37.00. Your donation in any amount will help. Please make checks out to **CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH** and in the memo area put **Thanksgiving meal**. Thank you for your generosity.

Social Ministries

OPENING HYMN #654 - "The Church's One Foundation" (vss. 1, 3, 5)

## The Church's One Foundation



1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;  
2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,  
3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,  
4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,  
5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.  
her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:  
by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,  
she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;  
and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;  
one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,  
yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"  
till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,  
Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.  
and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.  
and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.  
and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.  
that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900

Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

HYMN OF THE DAY #504 - "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

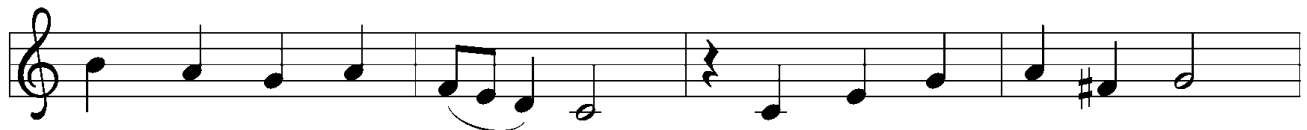
A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -  
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -  
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -  
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and  
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom  
vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they  
fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe  
God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?  
can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;  
weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might  
The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,  
in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;  
goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.  
God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.  
God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.  
they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

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**ENDING HYMN #517 - "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast In Your Word"**

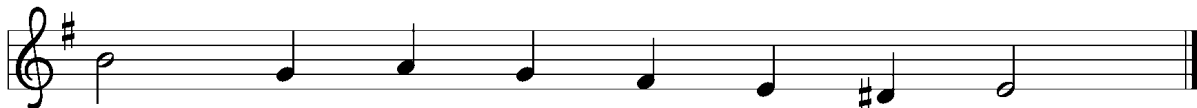
**Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word**



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your word; curb those who  
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are  
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and



by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son  
Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we  
u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife



and bring to naught all he has done.  
may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.  
and lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

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**Christmas Poinsettias**

**Order Form**

We will be decorating our sanctuary with poinsettias for the celebration of the Christmas Season. We will also be accepting contributions for Christmas wreaths and decorations for the sanctuary. If you would like to provide poinsettia plants or make a contribution for decorations, please complete the form below and return to the church office by

**November 29<sup>th</sup> for Poinsettias**

**December 13<sup>th</sup> for wreaths and sanctuary decorations**

along with your payment. Checks should be made payable to Christ Lutheran Church (CLC).

The poinsettias will be red. The cost is \$14.00 per plant.

\_\_\_\_\_ No. of plants desired \_\_\_\_\_ Amt. enclosed

\_\_\_\_\_ Amt. enclosed towards wreaths and sanctuary decorations

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_ or In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Flowers will be available for pickup after the last Christmas Service