

Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church

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Pastor Sue Beadle

Neil McLaughlin, Choir Director
Deacon Bonnie Vize, Organist

September 10, 2023- 15th Sunday after Pentecost, Children's Worship
The liturgy is Setting 12 in the ACS.

PRELUDE on "Jesus Loves Me" - Lovelace

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWER DEDICATION

Today's altar flowers are provided by the Emerson family in memory of Dick and Molly Emerson.

OPENING LITANY (based on John 3:16)

Gather round, I have a story to tell of one who reached inside Himself and took a handful of love like a pile of stardust and said: "This is for you, it is all you need. It is all you will ever need. There is enough here to change the whole world, so take it.

Many laughed at Him, mocked Him and ignored the invitation.

But some dared to take it and those who did noticed something about this love. They found they could do what the Gift-Giver could do.

They could stand with the lost and welcome the traveler, and to eat with the hungry. They found themselves doing what Jesus showed them: give something of themselves to others and they became like Jesus, offering themselves.

And as they offered themselves others took the invitation and many still do and many still trust it is enough to change the whole world

OPENING SONG - "Rise and Shine and Give God the Glory"

**Rise and shine and give God the glory, glory,
Rise and shine and give God the glory, glory,
Rise and shine and (CLAP)
Give God the glory, glory,
Children of the Lord. (REPEAT)**

GATHERING WORDS

People of God—This is the day the Lord has made!
We have come to worship!

Even if you're tired and worn out—
We have come to worship!

Lay down the heavy things you are carrying—
We have come to worship!

Listen to what Jesus wants to tell you—
We have come to worship!

Hear again how much Jesus loves you—
**For Jesus is humble and gentle,
and He will give us everything we need to follow him.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Inspired by 1 Samuel 3:1-20, John 1:43-51)
Holy One, you have called us by name. You will not let us lounge around.
You wake us up in the middle of the night to remember...

You will not let us hide under the tree.
You call us from the shade of comfort to be challenged...

You will not let us bury our secrets within the earth.
You unearth our fears and speak them aloud...

Forgive us, O God, when we don't know what to say.
Help us to say the words we need most.
In Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE (inspired by Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18)

Our God knows each of us by name. Our God knows what we are afraid of. Remember that we are fearfully and wonderfully made by God and God forgives us all our sins.
Blessed be God forever.

SONG OF PRAISE - "Awesome God"

**Our God, is an Awesome God!
He reigns from heaven above,
With wisdom, pow'r and love.
Our God is an Awesome God! (REPEAT)**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We gather to meet with God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, to know you are with us this day. For you, Lord, are here now; your Spirit lives within us. We have come to worship and praise you, to remember that you walk beside us and we do not make the journey alone. Almighty God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, come near to us, as we come near to you.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME - Gizmo and Pastor Sue

LET'S SING! - *Please join in with the children to sing and do the motions for their favorite songs.*

SONG - "Kids of the Kingdom"

**Kids of the kingdom, that's what we are.
Kids of the kingdom, that's what we are.
We love Jesus, we love the Lord.
We love Jesus, we love the Lord**

**Praise to the Father, praise to the Son,
Praise to the Spirit, the three in one.
We love Jesus, we love the Lord,
We love Jesus, we love the Lord.**

(REPEAT first verse)

SONG - "Father Abraham"

**Father Abraham had many kids,
Many kids had Father Abraham,
I am one of them, and so are you,
So let's all praise the Lord.**

**RIGHT ARM
LEFT ARM
RIGHT FOOT
LEFT FOOT
TURN AROUND
SIT DOWN**

FIRST LESSON

Narrator: The boy Samuel continued to serve the Lord under the guidance of Eli. In those days, messages from God were rare, and sacred dreams or visions were given to very few. Eli, who was very old, had become almost blind. He was lying in his room; it was late at night but before dawn as the lamp of God still burned. Samuel was resting in the house of the Lord, where the ark of the True God was located, and he heard a voice.

God: Samuel! Samuel!

Samuel: Here I am! I heard you calling; here I am!

Eli: I did not call you, my son. Go back, and lie down.

Narrator: So Samuel went back to bed. But the Lord called him again.

God: Samuel! Samuel!

Samuel: I heard you calling; here I am!

Eli: No, I did not call you, my son. Go back, and lie down. I need my rest.

Narrator: Samuel did not recognize the voice of the Lord, for the word of the Lord had not been revealed to Samuel yet. So Samuel went back again to his bed. And the Lord called him a third time.

Samuel: I know you called me; I am here!

Eli: Go back and lie down, my son. If the voice calls you again, I want you to say, "Speak, Lord. Your servant is listening."

Narrator: So Samuel went to his bed and listened. Then the Lord came into his presence as before.

God: Samuel! Samuel!

Samuel: Speak, Lord. Your servant is listening.

God: Pay attention! I am about to do something so amazing in Israel that everyone who hears it will listen. I told Eli I would punish his family forever. He knew his sons were sinning. He knew they were saying bad things about me. In spite of that, he did not stop them. So I made a promise to the family of Eli. I said, 'The sins of Eli's family will never be paid for by bringing sacrifices or offerings.' "

Narrator: After hearing this message, Samuel lay there until morning and then opened the doors of the Lord's house, but he was afraid to tell Eli what God had said to him.

Eli: Samuel, my son.

Samuel: Here I am.

Eli: What was it that God told you? Tell me everything. Do not hold anything back from me that He said to you.

Narrator: So Samuel told him everything, hiding nothing.

Eli: This message is truly from the Lord. Let Him do what seems good.

Narrator: As Samuel grew, the Lord guided him and none of His words were lost on Samuel. And all Israel, from Dan to Beersheba, learned that Samuel was a prophet of the Lord and that his words could be trusted.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

SECOND LESSON - 1 John 4:7-12

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

This is the Word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - "The B-I-B-L-E" (Please stand and sing.)

**The B-I-B-L-E, yes that's the book for me,
I stand alone on the Word of God,
The B-I-B-L-E
(REPEAT)**

This is the Good News according to St. Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL - Matthew 15:32-39

32Then Jesus called his disciples to him and said, "I have compassion for the crowd, because they have been with me now for three days and have nothing to eat; and I do not want to send them away hungry, for they might faint on the way." 33The disciples said to him, "Where are we to get enough bread in the desert to feed so great a crowd?" 34Jesus asked them, "How many loaves have you?" They said, "Seven, and a few small fish." 35Then ordering the crowd to sit down on the ground, 36he took the seven loaves and the fish; and after giving thanks he broke them and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. 37And all of them ate and were filled; and they took up the broken pieces left over, seven baskets full. 38Those who had eaten were four thousand men, besides women and children. 39After sending away the crowds, he got into the boat and went to the region of Magadan.

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

SERMON

SONG OF THE DAY - "Step by Step"

**O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.
O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.
I will seek you in the morning, and I will learn to walk in your ways,
And step by step you'll lead me, and I will follow you all of my days.**

(REPEAT)

**And I will follow you all of my days, and I will follow you all of my days,
And step by step you'll lead me, and I will follow you all of my days.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, we know you in the breaking of the bread and when we gather together as a family of faith. Help us to see you in the faces of the people we meet. Give us strength by your body and blood, so we can live our faith boldly. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Help us to care for the earth you create with great love. Thank you for farmers who are preparing to plant their fields to grow food that will feed us. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Help us to care for people who need food, clothing, or shelter. Thank you for food pantries, Blessings in a Backpack, and Norski Nibbles. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

Thank you for our families and friends, for teachers and coaches, for schools and homes. Be with all children who need your help and care. Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We rejoice that Jesus was raised from the dead and we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and loving God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING - *If you missed placing your offering in the plate when you arrived, there will be another plate by the ushers to leave your offering as you depart. Thank you for your support.*

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray.

Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

Song - "My God is So Great"

**My God is so great,
So strong and so mighty!
There's nothing my God cannot do! (Clap, Clap)**

**My God is so great,
So strong and so mighty!
There's nothing my God cannot do! (Clap, Clap)**

**The mountains are His,
The rivers are His,
The stars are his handiwork, too.
My God is so great,
So strong and so mighty!
There's nothing my God cannot do!**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the Lord's Supper, for all is now ready, and all are welcome.

Families are encouraged to come forward together for blessing and to receive Holy Communion.

SHARING THE MEAL

All are welcome to receive the Real Presence of Christ in the bread and wine of Holy Communion. You do not need to be a member of this church or a Lutheran to receive the sacrament. We do ask that you desire a relationship with Jesus Christ.

If you require gluten-free hosts, please say "no gluten" when you approach the person sharing the host.

The center rings of the trays provided contain grape juice for those desiring it. Cups may be returned to the Acolytes' baskets. The Common Cup is also available.

Children may come forward for a blessing, or to receive communion if they have been through instruction, here, or at another church.

If you wish to still receive the individual communion packet (wafer on top and wine/juice on the bottom), please pick one up as you approach the front.

If you would like the sacraments brought to you, please let the usher know. Welcome!

COMMUNION SONG - "This Little Light of Mine"

This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Verse 2 - Ev'rywhere where I go...

Verse 3 - Jesus gave it to me...



COMMUNION SONG - "Jesus Loves Me"

Jesus loves me, this I know,
For the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to him belong,
They are weak, but he is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me,
Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

PASTORAL BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

As we leave this place, we know
God will be with us wherever we go.

At work or play, at home or on vacation, we know
God will be with us wherever we go.

Whether we're happy or sad,
on our own, or with our friends, we know
God will be with us wherever we go.

So let's go with joy,
because God goes with us!
Amen.

SENDING SONG - "Walk in the Light"

It's a great day to praise the Lord.
It's a great day to praise the Lord.
It's a great day to praise the Lord,
Walkin' in the light of God.
So, walk, walk, walk, walk in the light,
Walk, walk, walk, walk in the light,

**Walk, walk, walk, walk in the light,
Walkin' in the light of God. (REPEAT chorus)**

Verse 2 - Jumpin' in the light of God. (REPEAT chorus)

Verse 3 - Slidin' in the light of God. (REPEAT chorus)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. And serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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Thank You!

Thank you to Gizmo, Deacon Bonnie Vize, the Praise Band, and our Sunday School children who worked so hard to make this service one to remember!

Today's Readers

Today we had children from the First through the Eighth grades reading a great variety of the worship elements. A very special thank you goes to all the children who participated in different parts of the service. Great job!

**Serving you today in Christ's
Love:**

Ushers

Team Janovitz
Team Nelson

Communion Helpers

Team Blau

Acolytes

Calendar-Week of September 10, 2023

Sun., September 10

9:00 am Worship Service

Tues., September 11

9:00 am Quilters
6:00 pm Girl Scouts Trp 8217 -NK
6:30 pm Bell Practice -S

Wed., September 12

9:00 am Women's Bible Study -FR
6:30 pm Cub Scouts -FH/NK
7:00 pm Choir Practice

Thurs., September 13

6:00 pm Confirmation

Fri., September 14

6:00 pm Boy Scouts -FH

Quilters' Appreciation Day

Sunday September 17 is our quilters' appreciation day. Quilters will be show casing their hard work from the past year during both services. Please come and show your appreciation and support.

Time to think about Lutefisk!

Before we know it, Saturday, November 11th will be here—the date of Christ Lutheran Church’s Lutefisk and Meatball Dinner! We again expect 1,200-1,300 members, friends and neighbors to come to enjoy this delicious meal which includes the area’s best-tasting lutefisk, meatballs and lefse with all the trimmings topped off with a piece of tasty pie.



Reservations can be made beginning around September 15 through Wednesday, November 8 by making reservations online, calling the church office 608-846-4718 or mailing in reservations with a check. Walk-ins and carry-out meals are also possible! Please share the date of dinner with your family, friends and neighbors and encourage them to make reservations and attend.

In order to help us prepare the meal and serve our guests, we need your help! Please plan to help prepare food prior to the dinner by preparing rutabagas, meatballs and coleslaw and working at the dinner. A sign-up board will be available outside the Friendship Room by mid-August! Lutefisk Committee

Let’s Make Pillowcases

Join us on Saturday, September 23 to make pillowcases for Ryan’s Case for Smiles. We begin at 9 am and work until about 3:00 pm, lunch will be served. Can’t sew? We need help with cutting, pinning and ironing, all are welcome. If you would like to donate material, it has to be 100% cotton. It takes 3/4 yard for the main piece and 1/3 yard for the pillowcase end. Hobby Lobby has 40% off all material almost every other week. Check the ad. Material can be dropped off in the church office. Otherwise, a money donation towards the material is always appreciated. Any questions, please call Pam Hamele at 608-215-0382.

Koats for Kids

Christ Lutheran Church is excited to participate in the Koats for Kids program! This year’s collection drive will be held Sunday, September 3rd - Monday, October 2nd. If you have any gently-used winter coats, non-leather hats, scarves and mittens (pinned in pairs please) that you would like to donate, there will be a box in the Friendship Room. Klinke Cleaners will clean all items, then hand them off to the Community Action Coalition for distribution in late October. All sizes are in demand, but there is a particular need for infant and toddler sizes, as well as larger teen sizes (12-22) and larger adult sizes (L-3XL). Please consider going through your closets to check for coats you no longer use and can donate to area residents who are in need.

