

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Celebrating 91 Years in Forest Hills

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The Reverend Ronald Breight	Pastor
Vincent Mroz	Vicar
Douglas Skalka	Organist
Barry Schoenthal	Worship Assistant
Tatia O'Connor	Lector
Ryder Giovanetti	Acolyte

Missionaries: The Rev. Dr. Jonathan and Deaconess Cheryl Naumann

Sunday bulletins, news, puzzles, and sermons are available on our website listed above. Services are live-streamed on our Facebook page listed above.

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The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 10, 2024

ORDER OF SERVICE

Prayer on entering church: Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. Amen.

PRELUDE

Musette on "All Things Bright and Beautiful"

John Barr

RINGING OF THE BELLS/ WELCOME

At the name of Jesus Every knee shall bow,
Ev'ry tongue confess Him King of Glory now.
'Tis the Father's pleasure We should call Him Lord,
Who from the beginning Was the Mighty Word.

At His voice creation Sprang at once to sight,
All the angel faces, All the hosts of light,
Thrones and dominations, Stars upon their way,
All the heav'nly orders In their great array.

Humbled for a season, To receive a name
From the lips of sinners Unto whom He came,
Faithfully He bore it, Spotless to the last,
Brought it back victorious When from death He passed.

Bore it up triumphant With its human light,
Through all ranks of creatures To the central height,
To the throne of Godhead, To the Father's breast,
Filled it with the glory Of that perfect rest.

In your hearts enthrone Him, There let Him subdue
All that is not holy, All that is not true;
Crown Him as your captain In temptation's hour;
Let His will enfold you In its light and pow'r.

Christians, this Lord Jesus Shall return again
In His Father's glory With His angel train;
For all wreaths of empire Meet upon His brow,
And our hearts confess him King of Glory now.

Glory then to Jesus, Who, the Prince of Light,
To a world in darkness Brought the gift of sight;
Praise to God the Father; In the Spirit's love
Praise we all together Him who reigns above.

CONGREGATIONAL GREETINGS

INVOCATION

The sign of the cross (+) may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism

P: In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

CONFESSION¹

P: Let us pray.

Dear Heavenly Father, You have brought us together into Your presence to set forth Your praise, to hear Your Holy Word, and to ask for ourselves and on behalf of others those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. Prepare our hearts and minds to worship You and receive Your gifts by giving us the spirit of repentance. Help us to approach the mercy seat of Christ, and sincerely confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by Your infinite goodness and mercy.

C: **Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:8-9)**

(We take a moment of silence before the Lord as we call to mind how we have not properly loved Him, ourselves, or other people.)

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: **Most merciful God, I confess that I am by nature sinful and unclean. I have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what I have done and by what I have left undone. I have not loved You with my whole heart; I have not loved my neighbors as myself. I justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me. Forgive me,**

renew me, and lead me, so that I may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (†) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

KYRIE

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Hymnal p. 155

This Is the Feast

***Refrain:* This is the feast of victory for our God.**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
Whose blood set us free to be people of God. *Refrain***

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor,
blessing, and glory are His. *Refrain***

Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all Creation:
Blessing, honor, glory and might be to God and
the Lamb forever. *Amen. Refrain*

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign.
Alleluia. Refrain

COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Grant us so firmly to believe in Your Son, Jesus, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING

1 Kings 17:8–16

L: The first reading for the Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost is from chapter seventeen of 1 Kings.

The widow in Zarephath is blessed.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 146

L: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
Whose hope is in the Lord his God,

**C: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
Whose hope is in the Lord his God,**

L: Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord, O my soul!

I will praise the Lord as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

**C: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
Whose hope is in the Lord his God,**

L: Put not your trust in princes,

In a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

When his breath departs he returns to the earth;

On that very day his plans perish.

**C: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
Whose hope is in the Lord his God,**

L: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

Whose hope is in the Lord his God,

Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,

Who keeps faith forever;

Who executes justice for the oppressed,

Who gives food to the hungry.

**C: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
Whose hope is in the Lord his God,**

L: The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.

The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

The Lord watches over the sojourners; He upholds the widow and the fatherless,

But the way of the wicked He brings to ruin.

The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations.

Praise the Lord!

**C: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
Whose hope is in the Lord his God,**

**A: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was
in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

L: The second reading is from chapter nine of Hebrews.

Christ is the sacrifice once and for all.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (*please rise and sing*)

Hymnal p. 156

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 12:38–44

P: The Holy Gospel is according to St. Mark, chapter twelve.

C: (*sung*)Glory to You, O Lord.

Spirited giving

Following the reading...

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: (*sung*)Praise to You, O Christ.

THE APOSTLES' CREED²

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY

The Clouds of Judgment Gather

Hymnal p. 513

The clouds of judgment gather, The time is growing late;
Be sober and be watchful, Our judge is at the gate:
The judge who comes in mercy, The judge who comes in might
To put an end to evil And diadem the right.

Arise, O true disciples; Let wrong give way to right,
And penitential shadow To Jesus' blessed light:
The light that has no evening, That knows no moon or sun,
The light so new and golden, The light that is but one.

The home of fadeless splendor, Of blooms that bear no thorn,
Where they shall dwell as children Who here as exiles mourn;
The peace of all the faithful, The calm of all the blest,
Inviolable, unfading, Divinest, sweetest, best.

Oh, happy, holy portion, Relief for all distressed,
True vision of true beauty, Refreshment for the blest!
Strive now to win that glory, Toil now to gain that light;
Send hope ahead to grasp it Till hope be lost in sight.

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SERMON³

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

VOLUNTARY

Lord of All Hopefulness

James Michael Stevens

OFFERING SONG(*please rise and sing*)

Hymnal p.192

What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

**I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and will call on the name of the Lord.**

**I will take the cup of salvation
and will call on the name of the Lord.**

**I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for ourselves, the church, and the world.

Following each petition:

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

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.

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING

P: Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we Your unworthy servants give You humble thanks for all Your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom You have made. We bless You for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for Your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of Your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth Your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to Your service, and by walking before You in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with You and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages.

C: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with His favor and (†) give you His peace.

C: (sung)Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

Hymnal p. 515

Rejoice, rejoice, believers, And let your lights appear;

The evening is advancing, And darkeer niht is near.

The Bridegroom is arising And soon is drawing nigh.

Up, pray and watch and wrestle; At midnight comes the cry.

The watchers on the mountain Proclaim the Bridegroom near;

Go forth as He approaches With alleluias clear.

The marriage feast is waiting; The gates wide open stand.

Arise, O heirs of glory; The Bridegroom is at hand.

The saints, who here in patience Their cross and suff'rings bore,

Shall live and reign forever When sorrow is no more.

Around the throne of glory The Lamb they shall behold;

In triumph cast before Him Their diadems of gold.

Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;

Arise, O Sun so longed for, O'er this benighted sphere.

With hearts and hands uplifted, We plead, O Lord, to see

The day of earth's redemption That sets Your people free!

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Prayer after worship: Almighty and merciful God, I have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for my many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. I thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep me in faith until, with all Your saints, I inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

POSTLUDE

¹*The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."* John 20:22-23. We take heart that the absolution proclaimed by the pastor is as from the Lord Himself.

²*It is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.* Romans 10:10. Our response to the Word of God that has just been read is our confession of faith in the one, true, triune God.

³Martin Luther teaches us about hearing the Word: "Know, therefore, that you must be concerned not only about hearing, but also about learning and retaining it in memory, and do not think that it is optional with you or of no great importance, but that it is God's commandment, who will require of you how you have heard, learned, and honored His Word." (Large Catechism) *Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!* Luke 11:28

Christ Lutheran Church is a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.