

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Celebrating 91 Years in Forest Hills

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The Reverend Ronald Bright	Pastor
Vincent Mroz	Vicar
Douglas Skalka	Organist
Cal Eggers	Worship Assistant
Gloria Stern	Lector
Conner Schriver	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 Last Sunday after Pentecost

The Sunday of Fulfillment

November 24, 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

Fantasia on "Wachet auf"

Martin Ellis

RINGING OF THE BELLS/ WELCOME

OPENING HYMN *(please rise and sing)*

Great God What Do I See and Hear?

**Great God, what do I see and hear? The end of things created;
The Judge of mankind doth appear On clouds of glory seated.**

The trumpet sounds; the graves restore

The dead which they contained before: Prepare, my soul, to meet Him.

**The dead in Christ shall first arise At that last trumpet's sounding,
Caught up to meet Him in the skies, With joy their Lord surrounding.**

No gloomy fears their souls dismay; His presence sheds eternal day

On those prepared to meet Him.

But sinners, filled with guilty fears, Behold His wrath prevailing,

For they shall rise and find their tears And sighs are unavailing;

The day of grace is past and gone;

They trembling stand before His throne, All unprepared to meet Him.

O Christ, who died and yet does live, To me impart Thy merit;

My pardon seal, my sins forgive, And cleanse me by Thy Spirit.

Beneath Thy cross I view the day When heav'n and earth shall pass away,

And thus prepare to meet Thee.

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

This Is the Feast

Hymnal p. 155

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: Lord Jesus Christ, so govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your glorious return, we may persevere in both faith and holiness of living; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

L: The first reading for the Last Sunday of the church year is from chapter fifty-one of Isaiah.

Keep your eyes open for Jesus.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 93

L: Your throne is established from of old;
You are everlasting.

**C: Your throne is established from of old;
You are everlasting.**

L: The Lord reigns: He is robed in majesty:

C: The Lord is robed; He has put on strength as His belt.

L: Yes, the world is established:

C: It shall never be moved.

**C: Your throne is established from of old;
You are everlasting.**

L: The floods have lifted up, O Lord, the floods have lifted up their voice;

C: The floods lift up their roaring.

L: Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves of the sea,

C: The Lord on high is mighty!

**C: Your throne is established from of old;
You are everlasting.**

L: Your decrees are very trustworthy;

C: Holiness befits Your house, O Lord, forevermore.

**C: Your throne is established from of old;
You are everlasting.**

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.

SECOND READING

Jude 20-25

L: The second reading is from chapter twenty of Jude.

Remember your identity in Christ.

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 13:24-37

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

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

Jesus, says he, is coming soon!

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 *(See Insert for music)*

Let Thoughtless Thousands Choose the Road

Let thoughtless thousands choose the road

That leads the soul away from God;

This happiness, dear Lord, be mine,

To live and die entirely Thine.

On Christ, by faith, I fain would live,

From Him my life, my all, receive,

To Him devote my fleeting hours,

Serve Him alone with all my pow'rs.

Christ is my everlasting All;

To Him I look, on Him I call;

He will my ev'ry want supply

In time and thro' eternity.

Soon will the Lord, my Life, appear;

Soon shall I end my trials here,

Leave sin and sorrow, death and pain.

To live is Christ, to die is gain.

Soon will the saints in glory meet,

Soon walk through every golden street,

And sing on every blissful plain:

To live is Christ, to die is gain.

SERMON³

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

CHOIR This Offering of Praise

O Lord of Creation, and God of salvation,

to You now we lift up this offering of praise.

For You, in Your kindness, have mended our blindness
and shown by Your goodness the light of Your ways.
With gladness and singing our worship we're bringing,
for You are the source of our joy and delight.
We join the procession of grateful confession,
"To God be all glory and wisdom and might!"

With joy and with pleasure this moment
we treasure as standing before You we raise up our songs.
For Your hand supplies us that which satisfies us.
To You, our provider, all glory belongs.
No shadow can hide You, no one is beside You,
Your power and majesty none can deny.
We thank You and bless You, our lips do confess You.
We worship with gladness our God, the Most High!
Alleluia! To God be all glory and might! Alleluia!
We worship our God, Most High!

We join the procession of grateful confession,
"To God be all glory and wisdom and might."
Let heaven keep ringing the thanks we are bringing.
To You we are singing this offering of praise
This Offering of Praise O Lord of Creation, and God of salvation,
to You now we lift up this offering of praise.
For You, in Your kindness, have mended our blindness and shown by
Your goodness the light of our God, Most High!
We join the procession of grateful confession,
"To God be all glory and wisdom and might." Let heaven keep ringing
the thanks we are bringing.
To You we are singing this offering of praise

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

The Bridegroom Soon Will Call Us

Hymnal p. 514

The Bridegroom soon will call us, "Come to the wedding feast."

May slumber not befall us Nor watchfulness decrease.

May all our lamps be burning With oil enough and more

That we, with Him returning, May find an open door!

There shall we see in glory Our dear Redeemer's face;

The long awaited story Of heav'nly joy takes place:

The patriarchs shall meet us, The prophet' holy band;

Apostles, martyrs greet us In that celestial land.

There God shall from all evil Forever make us free,

From sin and from the devil, From all adversity,

From sickness, pain, and sadness, From troubles, cares, and fears,

And grant us heav'nly gladness And wipe away our tears.

In that fair home shall never Be silent music's voice;

With hearts and lips forever We shall in God rejoice,

While angel hosts are raising With saints from great to least

A mighty hymn for praising The Giver of the feast.

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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

Prelude on "Thaxted'

Michael Helman

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.