

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Celebrating 91 Years in Forest Hills

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The Reverend Ronald Bright	Pastor
Vincent Mroz	Vicar
Douglas Skalka	Organist
Barry Schoenthal	Worship Assistant
Tatia O'Connor	Lector

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 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 14, 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

Celebration on "All Is Well"

Ralph B. Hastings

RINGING OF THE BELLS/ WELCOME

OPENING HYMN (*please rise and sing*)

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Hymnal p. 686

**Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory
Fills my heart with joy and love,
Teach me ever to adore Thee;
May I still Thy goodness prove.**

**Here I raise my Ebenezer,
Hither by Thy help I've come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wand'ring from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed His precious blood.**

**Oh, to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now like a fetter
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee;
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;
Prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.**

**Oh, that day when freed from sinning,
I shall see Thy lovely face;
Clothed then in the bloodwashed linen,
How I'll sing Thy wondrous grace!
Come, my Lord, no longer tarry;
Take my ransom'd soul away;
Send Thine angels soon to carry
Me to realms of endless day.**

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: Our Help is in the name of the Lord.

C: Who made heaven and earth.

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

(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: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we confess unto You that we are sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You in thought, word and deed. We therefore flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: O most merciful God, who has given Your only begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end, that by Your grace, we may receive the crown of eternal life in Your Kingdom of Glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: Do you believe that my forgiveness is God's forgiveness?

C: Yes, so I believe.

P: Let it be done for you as you believe.

As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (†) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Hymnal p. 790 sts. 1,5

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!

Let all who hear Now to His temple draw near,

Joining in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!

All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!

Let the Amen Sound from His people again;

Gladly forever adore Him!

COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

O Lord, You granted Your prophets strength to resist the temptations of the devil and courage to proclaim repentance. Give us pure hearts and minds to follow Your Son faithfully even into suffering and death; 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

Amos 7:7–15

L: The first reading for the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost is from chapter seven of Amos.

God gives the prophet Amos a vision for the people.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY

Psalm 85

L: Show us Your steadfast love, O Lord,
And grant us Your salvation.

**C: Show us Your steadfast love, O Lord,
And grant us Your salvation.**

L: Lord, You were favorable to Your land;
You restored the fortunes of Jacob.
You forgave the iniquity of Your people;
You covered all of their sin.
You withdrew all Your wrath;
You turned from Your hot anger.

L: Show us Your steadfast love, O Lord,

C: And grant us Your salvation.

L: Restore us again, O God of our salvation,
And put away Your indignation towards us!

Show us Your steadfast love, O Lord,

And grant us Your salvation.

C: Show us Your steadfast love, O Lord,

And grant us Your salvation.

**All: 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

Ephesians 1:3–14

L: The second reading is from chapter one of Ephesians.

We are reminded of our spiritual blessings in Christ.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 6:14–29

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

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

The death of John the Baptist

Following the reading...

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: 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

I Know My Faith Is Founded

Hymnal p. 587

I know my faith is founded On Jesus Christ, my God and Lord;
And this my faith confessing, Unmoved I stand on His sure Word.

Our reason cannot fathom The truth of God profound;
Who trusts in human wisdom Relies on shifting ground.

God's Word is all sufficient, It makes divinely sure;
And trusting in its wisdom, My faith shall rest secure.

Increase my faith, dear Savior, For Satan seeks by night and day
To rob me of this treasure And take my hope of bliss away.

But, Lord, with You beside me, I shall be undismayed;
And led by Your good Spirit, I shall be unafraid.

Abide with me, O Savior, A firmer faith bestow;
Then I shall bid defiance To ev'ry evil foe.

In faith, Lord, let me serve You; Though persecution, grief, and pain
Should seek to overwhelm me, Let me a steadfast trust retain;

And then at my departure, Lord, take me home to You,
Your riches to inherit As all You said holds true.

In life and death, Lord, keep me Until Your heav'n I gain, Where I by
Your great mercy The end of faith attain.

SERMON³

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

VOLUNTARY

My Lord, What a Morning

Stephen P. Folkemer

OFFERING SONG

Take My Life and Let it Be

Hymnal p. 783 sts. 1,4 &6

**Take my life and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days. Let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my silver and my gold. Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.**

**Take my love, my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all for Thee.**

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

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

P: Almighty God, send Your Holy Spirit into our hearts that He may rule and direct us according to Your will, strengthen us in all our temptations, afflictions and sorrows, defend us from all error, and lead us into all truth that we might continue steadfast in faith, may increase in all good works and in the end join You in Your everlasting kingdom of glory; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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 upon you and be gracious unto you.

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

C: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Christ Is the World's Redeemer

**Christ is the world's Redeemer, the lover of the pure,
The font of heav'nly wisdom, our trust and hope secure,
The armor of His soldiers, the Lord of earth and sky,
Our health while we are living, our life when we shall die.**

**Christ has our host surrounded with clouds of martyrs bright,
Who wave their palms in triumph and fire us for the fight.**

**Then Christ the cross ascended to save a world undone
And, suff'ring for the sinful, our full redemption won.**

**Down through the realm of darkness He strode in victory,
And at the hour appointed He rose triumphantly.**

**And now, to heav'n ascended, He sits upon the throne
Whence He had ne'er departed, His Father's and His own.**

Glory to God the Father, the unbegotten One,

All honor be to Jesus, His sole begotten Son,

And to the Holy Spirit the perfect Trinity.

Let all the worlds give answer: Amen! So let it be.

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

Recessional on "Slane"

Douglas E. Wagner

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.

