

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Celebrating 91 Years in Forest Hills

400 Barclay Avenue Forest Hills, PA 15221
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The Reverend Ronald Breight	Pastor
Vincent Mroz	Vicar
Douglas Skalka	Organist
John Crawford	Worship Assistant
Georgia Lindholm	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 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 21, 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

All the Way My Savior Leads Me

Marianne Kim

RINGING OF THE BELLS/ WELCOME

Children of the heav'nly Father
Safely in His bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven
Such a refuge e'er was given.

God His own doth tend and nourish;
In His holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things He spares them;
In His mighty arms He bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever
From the Lord His children sever;
Unto them His grace He showeth,
And their sorrows all He knoweth.

Though He giveth or He taketh,
God His children ne'er forsaketh;
His the loving purpose solely
To preserve them pure and holy.

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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.**

SONG OF PRAISE

Sing Praise to God

Hymnal p. 819 sts. 1,2,5

**Sing praise to God, the highest good, The author of creation,
The God of love who understood Our need for His salvation.**

**With healing balm our souls He fills And ev'ry faithless murmur stills:
To God all praise and glory!**

What God's almighty pow'r has made, In mercy He is keeping.

By morning glow or evening shade His eye is never sleeping.

**Within the kingdom of His might All things are just and good and right:
To God all praise and glory!**

**All who confess Christ's holy name, Give God the praise and glory.
Let all who know His pow'r proclaim Aloud the wondrous story.
Cast ev'ry idol from its throne, For God is God, and He alone:
To God all praise and glory!**

COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve Your goodness, still You provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your gifts, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 23:1-6

L: The first reading is from Jeremiah chapter twenty-three.

The remnant of God's flock will be gathered.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALMODY

The Lord's My Shepherd

Hymnal p. 710

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want.

**He makes me down to lie
in pastures green; He leadeth me
the quiet waters by.**

**My soul He doth restore again;
and me to walk doth make**

within the paths of righteousness,
e'en for His own Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
yet will I fear no ill;
for Thou art with me; and Thy rod
and staff me comfort still.

My table Thou hast furnished
in presence of my foes;
my head Thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me;
and in God's house forevermore
my dwelling place shall be.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 2:11–22

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

We are fellow citizens with God's people.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 6:30–44

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

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Jesus miraculously feeds thousands of people.

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

The Church's One Foundation

Hymnal p. 644

The Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;

She is His new creation By water and the Word.

From heav'n He came and sought her To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.

Elect from ev'ry nation, Yet one o'er all the earth;

Her charter of salvation: One Lord, one faith, one birth.

One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses With ev'ry grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder The world sees her oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder, By heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping; Their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping Shall be the morn of song.

Through toil and tribulation And tumult of her war
She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore
Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious Shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union With God, the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won.

O bless`ed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by Your grace
That we, like saints before us, May see You face to face.

SERMON³

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

VOLUNTARY

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

Jonathan R. Mueller

OFFERING SONG

We Praise You, O God

Hymnal p. 785 sts 1-3

We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;

In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.

We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You;

We bless Your holy Name, glad praises we sing.

We worship You, God of our fathers, we bless You;
Through trial and tempest our guide You have been.

When perils o'er take us, You will not forsake us,
And with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

With voices united our praises we offer

And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.

With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us.

To You, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

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.

THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper (Holy Communion) is being celebrated in today's service. In preparation for that, please be reminded that the bread and wine of the Lord's Supper are not merely representations or symbols of Jesus' body and blood but Jesus' body and blood sacrificed on the cross are present in,

with, and under the bread and wine (The Real Presence). How is this possible? This is beyond human understanding, but we remember that with God all things are possible. This truth is a divine mystery instituted by Jesus, taught by his Apostles, fervently held by the Christian church, and one in which we participate through faith. To be properly prepared to receive this sacrament, you must

- 1) Recognize that you have indeed sinned against God and other people and are accountable to God for those sins;
- 2) Be sorry (repentant) for those sins;
- 3) Believe that in this sacrament Jesus bestows forgiveness, life, and salvation; and
- 4) Sincerely desire to live a godly life from this point forward.

If you are not a member of Christ Lutheran Church, please speak with the pastor before receiving communion here for the first time. If you choose to come forward to receive a blessing rather than the Lord's Supper, indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest.

PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS

Hymnal p. 208

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PAX DOMINI

P: The peace of the Lord be with you in all ways.

C: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

Hymnal p. 434 sts. 1,3

**Lamb of God, pure and holy, Who on the cross didst suffer,
Ever patient and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer.
All sins Thou borest for us, Else had despair reigned o'er us:
Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!**

**Lamb of God, pure and holy, Who on the cross didst suffer,
Ever patient and lowly, Thyself to scorn didst offer.
All sins Thou borest for us, Else had despair reigned o'er us:
Thy peace be with us O Jesus! O Jesus!**

Prayer before communing: Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit one God now and forever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

Form a line at the communion rail starting at the left side. When the line is half full, begin filling it in from the right side. When invited, approach the rail and kneel/stand. If you want to receive a gluten-free wafer at communion, let the worship assistant know as he comes by with the wafers. After communion, exit through the right doorway, place individual communion cups in the tray, and proceed down the stairs back to your seat.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared

Hymnal p. 622

Lord Jesus Christ, You have prepared
This feast for our salvation;
It is Your body and Your blood,
And at Your invitation
As weary souls, with sin oppressed,
We come to You for needed rest,
For comfort, and for pardon.
Although You did to heav'n ascend,
Where angel hosts are dwelling,
And in Your presence they behold
Your glory, all excelling,
And though Your people shall not see
Your glory and Your majesty
Till dawns the judgment morning,
Yet, Savior, You are not confined
To any habitation;
But You are present even now
Here with Your congregation.
Firm as a rock this truth shall stand,
Unmoved by any daring hand
Or subtle craft and cunning.
We eat this bread and drink this cup,
Your precious Word believing
That Your true body and Your blood
Our lips are here receiving.
This Word remains forever true,
All things are possible with You,
For You are Lord Almighty.
Though reason cannot understand,
Yet faith this truth embraces:
Your body, Lord, is even now

At once in many places.
I leave to You how this can be;
Your Word alone suffices me;
I trust its truth unfailing.

Lord, I believe what You have said;
Help me when doubts assail me.
Remember that I am but dust,
And let my faith not fail me.
Your supper in this vale of tears
Refreshes me and stills my fears
And is my priceless treasure.

Grant that we worthily receive
Your supper, Lord, our Savior,
And, truly grieving for our sins,
May prove by our behavior
That we are thankful for Your grace
And day by day may run our race,
In holiness increasing.

For Your consoling supper, Lord,
Be praised throughout all ages!
Preserve it, for in ev'ry place
The world against it rages.
Grant that this sacrament may be
A bless'ed comfort unto me
When living and when dying

VOLUNTARY

Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread

Thomas E. Lock

POST COMMUNION COLLECT

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of

His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Hymnal p. 711

Savior, like a shepherd lead us; Much we need Your tender care.

In Your pleasant pastures feed us, For our use Your fold prepare.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have bought us; we are Yours.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have bought us; we are Yours.

**We are Yours; in love befriend us, Be the guardian of our way;
Keep Your flock, from sin defend us, Seek us when we go astray.**

Blessed Jesus blessed Jesus, Hear us children when we pray.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus Hear us children when we pray.

**You have promised to receive us, Poor and sinful though we be;
You have mercy to relieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.**

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Early let us turn to You.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Early let us turn to You.

**Early let us seek Your favor, Early let us do Your will
Blessed Lord and only Savior, With Your love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have loved us, love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have loved us, love us still.**

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

Rise Up, Ye Saints of God

Robert J. Powell

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.

