

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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You Tube: Christ Lutheran Church Forest Hills PA

Facebook: [ChristLutheranChurchfh](https://www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranChurchfh)

The Reverend Ronald Bright	Pastor
The Reverend Reholma McCants	Pastor Emeritus
Douglas Skalka	Organist
Neil Ackerman	Worship Assistant
Neil Ackerman	Lector

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

Sunday bulletins, news, puzzles, and sermons are available on our website listed above.
Video recordings of our weekly services can be viewed on our You Tube channel, *Christ Lutheran Forest Hills Pa*. Services are live-streamed on our Facebook page.

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The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 25, 2021

ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDE

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

RINGING OF THE BELLS/ WELCOME

OPENING HYMN (*please rise and sing*)

Holy, Holy, Holy

Hymnal p. 507

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;

**Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

**Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Which wert and art and evermore shalt be.**

**Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see,
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.**

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, Holy, Holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

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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

Hymnal p. 849 sts. 1,3

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

**Praise the One Who breaks the darkness
With a liberating light;**

**Praise the One who frees the pris'ners,
Turning blindness into sight.**

**Praise the One who preached the Gospel,
Healing ev'ry dread disease,
Calming storms, and feeding thousands
With the very Bread of Peace**

**Let us praise the Word Incarnate,
Christ, who suffered in our place.**

**Jesus died and rose victorious
That we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness,
Seeing what our God has done;**

**Let us praise the true Redeemer,
Praise to Him who makes us one.**

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COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Almighty and most merciful God, the protector of all who trust in You, strengthen our faith and give us courage to believe that in Your love You will rescue us from all adversities; 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

Genesis 9:8–17

L: The first reading for the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost is from chapter nine of Genesis.

The covenant of the rainbow

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY

Psalm 136

L: Give thanks to the God of heaven,

C: for His steadfast love endures forever.

L: Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,

C: for His steadfast love endures forever.

L: to Him who alone does great wonders,

C: for His steadfast love endures forever;

L: to Him who by understanding made the heavens,

C: for His steadfast love endures forever;

L: to Him who spread out the earth above the waters,

C: for His steadfast love endures forever;

L: to Him who made the great lights,

C: for His steadfast love endures forever;

L: the sun to rule over the day,

C: for His steadfast love endures forever;

L: the moon and stars to rule over the night,

C: for His steadfast love endures forever;

L: Give thanks to the God of heaven,

C: for His steadfast love endures forever.

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: Give thanks to the God of heaven,

C: for His steadfast love endures forever.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 3:14–21

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

Prayer for spiritual strength

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 6:45–56

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

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Jesus walks on water.

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

Entrust Your Days and Burdens

Hymnal p. 754

Entrust your days and burdens To God's most loving hand;
He cares for you while ruling The sky, the sea, the land.
For He who guides the tempests Along their thund'rous ways
Will find for you a pathway And guide you all your days.

Rely on God your Savior And find your life secure.
Make His work your foundation That your work may endure.
No anxious thought, no worry, No self tormenting care
Can win your Father's favor; His heart is moved by prayer.

Take heart, have hope, my spirit, And do not be dismayed;
God helps in ev'ry trial And makes you unafraid.
Await His time with patience Through darkest hours of night
Until the sun you hoped for Delights your eager sight.

Leave all to His direction; His wisdom rules for you
In ways to rouse your wonder At all His love can do.
Soon He, His promise keeping, With wonderworking pow'rs
Will banish from your spirit What gave you troubled hours.

O bless`ed heir of heaven, You'll hear the song resound
Of endless jubilation When you with life are crowned.

**In your right hand your maker Will place the victor's palm,
And you will thank Him gladly With heaven's joyful psalm.
Our hands and feet, Lord, strengthen; With joy our spirits bless
Until we see the ending Of all our life's distress.
And so throughout our lifetime Keep us within Your care
And at our end then bring us To heav'n to praise You there.**

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SERMON³

VERSE

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.**

Text and music: Public domain

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

I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus

Hymnal p. 729

**I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus, Trusting only Thee;
Trusting Thee for full salvation, Great and free.**

**I am trusting Thee for pardon; At Thy feet I bow,
For Thy grace and tender mercy Trusting now.**

**I am trusting Thee for cleansing In the crimson flood;
Trusting Thee to make me holy By Thy blood.**

**I am trusting Thee to guide me; Thou alone shalt lead,
Ev'ry day and hour supplying All y need.**

**I am trusting Thee for power; Thine can never fail.
Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me Must prevail.**

**I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus; Never let me fall.
I am trusting Thee forever All for all.**

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POSTLUDE

Scherzo

Margaretha Christina de Jong

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

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT FOR ONLINE VIEWERS

For those worshipping with us online and those sheltering in place, we encourage you to bring your tithes and offerings to the church office open M-F mornings from 9-12, or mail your check in to church, or for those who bank online, simply instruct your bank to send us a check in the mail.

We all owe God our tithes and offerings and we encourage everyone to continue in the joy that is found in faithful financial stewardship. Thank you.

HOME COMMUNION: Christ Lutheran is providing Home Communion Packages with individually wrapped wafers and wine cups. These packages are to be distributed to those who are institutionalized or remain at home on Sundays. Your help getting these packages out is needed. Talk to Pastor if you'd like to help.

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

