

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

400 Barclay Avenue Forest Hills, PA 15221
412-271-7173 www.christlutheranfh.org

The Reverend Ronald Breight	Pastor
The Reverend Reholma McCants	Pastor Emeritus
Douglas Skalka	Organist
Paul Simpson	Worship Assistant
Rick Kern	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.

+++++

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 15, 2021

ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDE

Folk Prelude on "Azmon"

Carson Cooman

RINGING OF THE BELLS/ WELCOME

OPENING HYMN (*please rise and sing*)

Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng

Hymnal p. 813

Rejoice, O pilgrim throng!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing;
Your festal banner wave on high,

Your festal banner wave on high,
The cross of Christ your king.
Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

With voice as full and strong
As ocean's surging praise,
Send forth the sturdy hymns of old,
The psalms of ancient days.

Refrain

With all the angel choirs,
With all the saints on earth
Pour out the strains of joy and bliss,
True rapture, noblest mirth.

Refrain

Yet on and onward still,
With hymn and chant and song,
Through gate and porch and columned aisle
The hallowed pathways throng.

Refrain

Still lift your standard high,
Still march in firm array,
As pilgrims through the darkness wend
Till dawns the golden day.

Refrain

At last the march shall end;
The wearied ones shall rest;
The pilgrims find their home at last,
Jerusalem the blest.

Refrain

Praise Him who reigns on high,
The Lord whom we adore:

**The Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
One God forevermore.**

Refrain

Text and music: Public domain

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. 794

The Lord, My God, Be Praised

**The Lord, my God, be praised, My light, my Life from heaven;
My Maker, who to me has soul and body given;
My Father, who will shield and keep me day by day
And make each moment yield new blessings on my way.**

**The Lord, my God, be praised, My God, the ever living,
To whom the heav'nly host their laud and praise are giving.
The Lord, my God, be praised in whose great name I boast,
God Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost.**

Text and music: Public Domain

COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow His steps in the way that leads to life eternal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING

Proverbs 9:1–10

L: The first reading is from Proverbs chapter nine.

God's way of wisdom

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY

Psalm 34

L: Come, O children, listen to me;

C: I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

L: What man is there who desires life

C: And loves many days, that he may see good?

L: Keep your tongue from evil

C: And your lips from speaking deceit.

L: Turn away from evil and do good;

C: Seek peace and pursue it.

L: The eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous

C: And His ears toward their cry.

L: The face of the Lord is against those who do evil,

C: To cut off the memory of them from the earth.

L: When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears

C: And delivers them out of all their troubles.

L: The Lord is near to the broken-hearted

C: And saves the crushed in spirit.

L: Many are the afflictions of the righteous,

C: But the Lord delivers him out of them all.

L: He keeps all his bones;

C: Not one of them is broken.

L: Affliction will slay the wicked,

C: And those who hate the righteous will be condemned.

L: The Lord redeems the life of His servants;

C: None of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.

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: Come, O children, listen to me;

C: I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 5:6–21

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

Walking in the way of wisdom and love

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 6:51–69

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

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Jesus is the living bread from heaven.

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

O God, My Faithful God

Hymnal p. 696

**O God, my faithful God, True fountain ever flowing,
Without whom nothing is, All perfect gifts bestowing:**

**Give me a healthy frame, And may I have within
A conscience free from blame, A soul unstained by sin.**

**Grant me the strength to do With ready heart and willing
Whatever you command, My calling here fulfilling;
That I do what I should While trusting You to bless
The outcome for my good, For You must give success.**

**Keep me from saying words That later need recalling;
Guard me lest idle speech May from my lips be falling;
But when within my place I must and ought to speak, Then to my
words give grace Lest I offend the weak.**

**Lord, let me win my foes With kindly words and actions,
And let me find good friends For counsel and correction.
Help me, as You have taught, To love both great and small
And by Your Spirit's might To live in peace with all.**

**Let me depart this life Confiding in my Savior;
By grace receive my soul That it may live forever;
And let my body have A quiet resting place
Within a Christian grave; And let it sleep in peace.**

**And on that final day When all the dead are waking,
Stretch out Your mighty hand, My deathly slumber breaking.
Then let me hear Your voice, Redeem this earthly frame,
And bid me to rejoice With those who love Your name.**

Text: and music: Public Domain

SERMON³

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

VOLUNTARY

O God, My Faithful God

Bernard Wayne Sanders

OFFERING SONG

Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

Hymnal p. 806

**Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son. (Repeat)**

**And now let the weak say "I am strong,"
Let the poor say "I am rich,"
Because of what the Lord has done for us. (Repeat)**

Give thanks, give thanks.

Text and Tune©1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music/ASCAP c/o Integrity Media, Inc. Used by permission Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #10004542

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.

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!**

Text and music: Public domain

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, Life-Giving Bread

Hymnal p. 625

**Lord Jesus Christ, lifegiving bread,
May I in grace possess You. Let me with holy food be fed,
In hunger I address You. Prepare me well for You, O Lord,
And, humbly by my prayer implored,
Give me Your grace and mercy.**

**To pastures green, Lord, safely guide, To restful waters lead me;
Your table well for me provide, Your wounded hand now feed me
Though weary, sinful, sick, and weak, Refuge in You alone I seek,
To share Your cup of healing.**

**O bread of heav'n, my soul's delight, For full and free remission
I come with prayer before Your sight In sorrow and contrition.
Your righteousness, Lord, cover me That I receive You worthily,
Assured of Your full pardon.**

**I do not merit favor, Lord, My weight of sin would break me;
In all my guilty heart's discord, O Lord, do not forsake me. In my distress
this comforts me That You receive me graciously,
O Christ, my Lord of mercy!**

Text and music: public domain

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

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

Hymnal p. 643

**Sent forth by God's blessing, Our true faith confessing,
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.**

**The supper is ended. O now be extended
The fruits of this service in all who believe.**

**With praise and thanksgiving To God everliving,
The tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, In love ever caring,
Embracing His children of each tribe and race.**

**The seed of His teaching, Receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.**

**His grace did invite us, His love shall unite us
To work for God's kingdom and answer His call.
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;
Unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living With praise and thanksgiving
Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.**

Text: © 1964 World Library Publications Tune: Public domain; setting © 1972 Inter-Lutheran Commission on Worship Used by permission.
Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #10004542

POSTLUDE

Sent Forth By God's Blessing

Gilbert M. Martin

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.

