

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Celebrating 91 Years in Forest Hills

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

The Reverend Ronald Breight	Pastor
Vincent Mroz	Vicar
Douglas Skalka	Organist
John Crawford	Worship Assistant
Barb Mitchell	Lector
	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.

+++++

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 4, 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

Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face

Daniel Burton

RINGING OF THE BELLS/ WELCOME

OPENING HYMN (*please rise and sing*)

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!

Hymnal p. 821

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus! His the scepter, His the throne.

Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone.

Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood.

“Jesus out of every nation has redeemed us by His blood.”

Alleluia! Not as orphans Are we left in sorrow now;

Alleluia! He is near us; Faith believes, nor questions how.

Though the cloud from sight received Him When the forty days were o'er,

Shall our hearts forget His promise: “I am with you evermore”?

Alleluia! Bread of heaven, Here on earth our food, our stay;

Alleluia! Here the sinful flee to You from day to day:

Intercessor, Friend of sinners, Earth's Redeemer, hear our plea,

Where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! King eternal, Lord omnipotent we own;

Alleluia! Born of Mary, Earth Your footstool, heav'n Your throne.

As within the veil You entered, Robed in Flesh, our great High Priest,

Here on earth both Priest and victim In the eucharistic feast.

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; His the scepter, His the throne;

Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone.

Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion Thunder like a mighty flood;

“Jesus out of ev'ry nation Has redeemed us by His blood.”

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

Hymnal p. 656 sts. 1,4

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

**A mighty fortress is our God, a trusty Shield and Weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need that hath us now o'ertaken.**

**The old evil foe now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.**

**The Word they still shall let remain nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain with His good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life, goods, fame, child, and wife,
Though these all be gone, our vict'ry has been won;
The Kingdom ours remaineth.**

COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

Merciful Father, You gave Your Son Jesus as the heavenly bread of life. Grant us faith to feast on Him in Your Word and Sacraments that we may be nourished unto life everlasting; 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

Exodus 16:2–15

L: The first reading is from Exodus chapter sixteen.

The Lord promises bread to rain from heaven.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY

Psalm 145

L: The eyes of all look to You,
and You give them their food in due season.

**C: The eyes of all look to You,
and You give them their food in due season.**

L: All Your works shall give thanks to You, O Lord,
and all Your saints shall bless You!

They shall speak of the glory of Your kingdom
and tell of Your power,
to make known to the children of man Your mighty deeds,
and the splendor of Your kingdom.

**C: The eyes of all look to You,
and You give them their food in due season.**

L: Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and Your dominion endures throughout all generations.
The Lord is faithful in all His words
and kind in all His works.

**C: The eyes of all look to You,
and You give them their food in due season.**

**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

Ephesians 4:1–16

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

Guidance for living together in Christian harmony

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 6:22–35

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

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Jesus is the true bread sent by His Father in 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

Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer

Hymnal p. 918

Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer, Pilgrim through this barren land.

I am weak, but Thou art mighty; Hold me with Thy pow'rful hand.

Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, Feed me till I want no more;

Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain Whence the healing stream doth flow;

Let the fiery, cloudy pillar Lead me all my journey through. Strong

deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer, Be Thou still my strength and shield;

Be Thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, Bid my anxious fears subside; Death of death and hell's destruction, Land me safe on Canaan's side.

Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to Thee;

I will ever give to Thee.

SERMON³

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

VOLUNTARY

O Jesus, King Most Wonderful

Peter Crisafulli

OFFERING SONG

**Lord of all good, our gifts we bring You now;
Use them Your holy purpose to fulfill.
Tokens of love and pledges they shall be
That our whole life is offered to Your will.
Father, whose bounty all creation shows;
Christ, by whose willing sacrifice we live;
Spirit, from whom all life in fullness flows:
To You with grateful hearts ourselves we give.**

Text: © Oxford University Press. LSB Used by Permission. Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014542. 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.

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

At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

Hymnal p. 633

**At the Lamb's high feast we sing,
Praise to our victorious King,
Who has washed us in the tide
Flowing from His pierced side. Alleluia!**

**Praise we Him, whose love divine
Gives His sacred blood for wine,
Gives His body for the feast,
Christ the Victim, Christ the Priest. Alleluia!**

**Where the Paschal blood is poured,
Death's dread angel sheathes the sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go
Through the wave that drowns the foe. Alleluia!**

**Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,
Paschal victim, paschal bread;
With sincerity and love
Eat we manna from above. Alleluia!**

**Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell's fierce powers beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light; Alleluia!**

**Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened Paradise,
And in Your saints in You shall rise. Alleluia!**

**Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be. Alleluia!**

**Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise. Alleluia!**

Text and music: Public domain Setting©1969 Concordia Publishing House Used by permission. Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014542

VOLUNTARY

Meditation on "Let Us Break Bread Together"

John S. Dixon

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

My Faith Looks up to Thee

Hymnal p. 702

**My faith looks up to Thee,
Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine.
Now hear me while I pray; Take all my guilt away;
O let me from this day Be wholly Thine!**

**May Thy rich grace impart Strength to my fainting heart;
My zeal inspire! As Thou hast died for me,
Oh, may my love to Thee Pure, warm, and changeless be,
A living fire!**

**While life's dark maze I tread And griefs around me spread,
Be Thou my guide; Bid darkness turn to day,
Wipe sorrow's tears away,
Nor let me ever stray From Thee aside.**

**When ends life's transient dream,
When death's cold, sullen stream Shall o'er me roll,
Blest Savior, then, in love, Fear and distrust remove;
O bear me safe above, A ransomed soul!**

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

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

James J. Stanley

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.

