

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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You Tube: Christ Lutheran Church Forest Hills PA

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The Reverend Ronald Breight	Pastor
Douglas Skalka	Organist
The Reverend Reholma McCants	Pastor Emeritus
Vincent Mroz	Vicar
Barry Schoenthal	Worship Assistant
Darlene James	Lector
Conner Schriver	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.

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The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 11, 2022

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

Meditation on "St. Crispin"

A. F. Schultz

RINGING OF THE BELLS/ WELCOME

OPENING HYMN (*please rise and sing*)

Shepherd of Tender Youth

Hymnal p. 864

Shepherd of tender youth,
Guiding in love and truth
Through devious* ways;
Christ, our triumphant king,
We come Your name to sing
And here our children bring
To join Your praise.

You are the holy Lord,
O all subduing Word,
Healer of strife.
Yourself You did abase
That from sin's deep disgrace
You so might save our race
And give us life.

You are the great High Priest;
You have prepared the feast
Of holy love;
And in our mortal pain
None calls on You in vain;
Our plea do not disdain;
Help from above.

O ever be our guide,
Our shepherd, and our pride,
Our staff and song.
Jesus, O Christ of God,
By Your enduring Word
Lead us where You have trod;
Make our faith strong.
So now, and till we die,

**Sound we Your praises high
And joyful sing:
Infants and all the throng,
Who to the Church belong,
Unite to swell the song
To Christ, our king!**

Text and music: Public domain

**many/various*

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: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made Heaven and Earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

(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: O almighty God, merciful Father,

C: I, a poor miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the (†) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

KYRIE

Hymnal p.186

P: Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that, by patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**A: (sung) Lord, have mercy upon us;
Christ, have mercy upon us;
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Hymnal p. 187

P: Glory be to God on high,

C: and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.

We praise Thee, we bless Thee,

we worship Thee, we glorify Thee,

we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world,

have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world,

receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,

have mercy upon us.

**For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: (sung) And with thy spirit.

P: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, You are the Good Shepherd, without whom nothing is secure. Rescue and preserve us that we may not be lost forever but follow You, rejoicing in the way that leads to eternal life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: (sung) Amen.

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 34:11–24

L: The first reading for the fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost is from chapter thirty-four of Ezekiel.

God will personally search for His sheep.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY

Psalm 119

L: I have gone astray like a lost sheep.

Seek Your servant, for I do not forget Your commandments.

C: I have gone astray like a lost sheep.

Seek Your servant, for I do not forget Your commandments.

L: Let my cry come before You O Lord;

C: give me understanding according to Your Word!

L: Let my plea come before You;

C: deliver me according to Your Word.

C: I have gone astray like a lost sheep.

Seek Your servant, for I do not forget Your commandments.

L: My lips will pour forth praise,

C: for You teach me Your statutes.

L: My tongue will sing of Your word,

C: for all Your commandments are right.

C: I have gone astray like a lost sheep.

Seek Your servant, for I do not forget Your commandments.

L: Let Your hand be ready to help me,

C: for I have chosen Your precepts.

L: I long for Your salvation, O Lord,

C: and Your Law is my delight.

L: Let my soul live and praise You,

C: and let Your just decrees help me.

C: I have gone astray like a lost sheep.

Seek Your servant, for I do not forget Your commandments.

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

1 Timothy 1: 12–17

L: The second reading is from chapter one of 1 Timothy.

Christ Jesus came to the world to save sinners.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P: Alleluia, alleluia.

Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

You have the words of eternal life.

1 Samuel 3.9; John 6.68

A: *(sung)* Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 15:1–10

P: The Holy Gospel is according to St. Luke, chapter fifteen.

C: *(sung)* **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

Jesus tells the parables of the lost sheep and lost coin.

Following the reading...

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: *(sung)* **Praise be to Thee, 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

How Precious Is the Book Divine

**How precious is the Book Divine,
By inspiration giv'n!**

**Bright as a lamp its doctrines shine
To guide our souls to heav'n**

**Its light, descending from above
Our gloomy world to cheer,
Displays a Savior's boundless love**

And brings His glories near.
It shows to man his wand'ring ways
And where his feet have trod,
And brings to view the matchless grace
Of a forgiving God.

O'er all the straight and narrow way
Its radiant beams are cast;
A light whose never weary ray
Grows brightest at the last.

It sweetly cheers our drooping hearts
In this dark vale of tears.
Life, light, and joy it still imparts
And quells our rising fears.

This lamp through all the tedious night
Of life shall guide our way
Till we behold the clearer light
Of an eternal day.

Text and music: Public domain

SERMON³

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

VOLUNTARY

Jesus Sinners Will Receive

Mark Sedio

OFFERING SONG

Hymnal p. 192

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence,
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation,
and uphold me with Thy free Spirit. Amen.

INSTALLATION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL STAFF

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

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: The Lord be with you.

C: *(sung)*And with thy spirit.

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: *(sung)*Thanks be to God.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

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

C: *(sung)*Amen. Amen. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Oh, Blest the House

Hymnal p. 862

Oh, blest the house, whate'er befall,
Where Jesus Christ is all in all!
A home that is not wholly His
How sad and poor and dark it is!

Oh, blest that house where faith is found
And all in hope and love abound;
They trust their God and serve Him still
And do in all His holy will!

Oh, blest the parents who give heed
Unto their children's foremost need
And weary not of care or cost.
May none to them and heav'n be lost!

Oh, blest that house; It prospers well.
In peace and joy the parents dwell,
And in their children's lives is shown
How richly God can bless His own

Then here will I and mine today
A solemn promise make and say:
Though all the world forsake His Word,
I and my house will serve the Lord!

Text and music: Public domain

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

Setting on "St. Denio"

Raymond H. Haan

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. Home communions are available after worship and at the church office Monday through Friday 9am-Noon. Please write on the clipboard to whom you are taking communion.

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