

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

The Reverend Ronald Breight	Pastor
Douglas Skalka	Organist
Steve Stern	Worship Assistant
Gloria Stern	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.*

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The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 20, 2020

ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDE

The Man Is Ever Blessed

J. Wayne Kerr

OPENING HYMN (*please rise and sing*)

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Hymnal p. 770

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.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

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 God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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

FIRST READING

Isaiah 55:6–9

L: The first reading for the sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost is from chapter fifty-five of Isaiah.

Seek the Lord while He may be found.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY

Hymnal p. 737 sts. 1-3,6

**Rejoice, my heart, be glad and sing,
A cheerful trust maintain;
For God, the source of ev'rything,
Your portion shall remain.**

**He is your treasure, He your joy,
Your life and light and Lord,
Your counselor when doubts annoy,
Your shield and great reward.**

**Why spend the day in blank despair,
In restless thought the night?
On your Creator cast your care;
He makes your burdens light.**

**His wisdom never plans in vain
Nor falters nor mistakes.
All that His counsels may ordain
A blessed ending makes.**

SECOND READING

Philippians 1:12–14, 19–30

L: The second reading is from chapter one of Philippians.

Let your manner of life be worthy of the Gospel of Christ.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(please rise)*

Hymnal p. 190

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

Matthew 20:1–16

P: The Holy Gospel is according to St. Matthew, chapter twenty.

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

The last will be first and the first will be last.

Following the reading...

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: *(sung)* **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

THE NICENE CREED²

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and Earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from Heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY
Thy Strong Word

Hymnal p. 578

SERMON³

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 COMMUNION⁴

PREFACE

Hymnal p. 194

P: The Lord be with you.

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

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: (*sung*) We lift them up unto the Lord.

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

C: (*sung*) It is meet and right so to do.

PROPER PREFACE

P: It is truly meet, right, and salutary...evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;

Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He, blessed is He,

Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

THE 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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

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

C: *(sung)* Amen.

AGNUS DEI

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
grant us Thy peace. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

Communion will be offered using the "continuous" method. Approach the front using the main isle. Take both your wafer and individual communion cup from the trays in the front. Place the individual cup and liner in the receptacle at the end of the front pew. Return to your pew using the side isle, if possible. Please observe the 6-foot spacing between communicants. You need not have your mask on when you come up for communion.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

O Christ, Our True and Only Light

Hymnal p. 839

VOLUNTARY

Voluntary on "Slane"

Eugene Butler

NUNC DIMITTIS

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace
according to Thy word,
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast prepared
before the face of all people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles
and the glory of Thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

THANKSGIVING

P: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

C: (*sung*)and His mercy endureth forever.

COLLECT

P: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: (*sung*) Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord be with you.

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

P: Bless we 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 unto you The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

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

CLOSING HYMN

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

Hymnal p. 685

POSTLUDE

For Me to Live Is Jesus

Jeffrey Blersch

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*

⁴If you are not a communing member of Christ Lutheran, you must speak with the pastor before receiving communion.

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