

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| The Reverend Ronald Breight | Pastor |
| Douglas Skalka | Organist |
| Cal Eggers | Worship Assistant |
| Darlene James | 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 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 27, 2020

ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDE

Out of the Ivory Palaces

Carolyn Hamlin

RINGING OF THE BELLS/ WELCOME

OPENING HYMN (*please rise and sing*)

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

Hymnal p. 901

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.

Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32

L: The first reading for the seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost is from chapter eighteen of Ezekiel.

The Lord takes no pleasure in the death of anyone, so turn to Him.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY

Psalm 25

L: Make me to know Your ways, O Lord;

C: Teach me Your paths.

L: To You, O Lord,

C: I lift up my soul.

L: O my God, in You I trust; let me not be put to shame;

C: Let not my enemies exult over me.

L: Indeed, none who wait for You shall be put to shame;

C: They shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

L: Make me to know Your ways, O Lord;

C: Teach me Your paths.

L: Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation;

C: For You I wait all the day long.

L: Remember Your mercy, O Lord, and Your steadfast love,

C: For they have been from of old.

L: Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;

C: According to Your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of Your goodness, O Lord!

L: Good and upright is the Lord;

C: Therefore He instructs sinners in the way.

L: He leads the humble in what is right,

C: And teaches the humble His way.

L: All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness,

C: For those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.

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: Make me to know Your ways, O Lord;

C: Teach me Your paths.

SECOND READING

Philippians 2:1–18

L: The second reading is from chapter two of 2 Philippians.

At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P: Alleluia, alleluia.

My sheep hear My voice, says the Lord.

I know them, and they follow Me.

cf John 10.27

A: (sung) Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 21:23–32

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

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

On obeying our Father in heaven

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

God of Grace and God of Glory

Hymnal p. 850

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.

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

Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise

Hymnal p. 917

POSTLUDE

A Song of Triumph

Anthony Giamanco

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.