

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Celebrating 91 Years in Forest Hills

400 Barclay Avenue Forest Hills, PA 15221
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The Reverend Ronald Bright	Pastor
Vincent Mroz	Vicar
Douglas Skalka	Organist
Richard Mueller	Worship Assistant
Lois Frerking	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 listed above.

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The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

August 3, 2025

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

The Old Rugged Cross

Carolyn Hamlin

RINGING OF THE BELLS/ WELCOME

OPENING HYMN (*please rise and sing*)

This Is the Day the Lord Has Made

Hymnal p. 903

This is the day the Lord has made;
He calls the hours His own.
Let heav'n rejoice, let earth be glad
And praise surround the throne.
Today He rose and left the dead,
And Satan's empire fell;
Today the saints His triumphs spread
And all His wonders tell.
Hosanna to the anointed King,
To David's holy Son!
Help us, O Lord, descend and bring
Salvation from Your throne.
Blessed is He who comes to us
With messages of grace;
He, in the Lord's name, comes to us
To save our fallen race.
Hosanna in the highest strains
The Church on earth can raise.
The highest heav'ns, in which He reigns,
Shall give Him nobler praise.

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Hymnal p. 790 sts. 1,5

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!

Let all who hear Now to His temple draw near,

Joining in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!

All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!

Let the Amen Sound from His people again;

Gladly forever adore Him!

COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, You have set us free and made us a new creation, renewed in knowledge after the image of our creator. Empower us to live this new life in our families, with our friends, and to eat, drink, and find enjoyment in all the riches You graciously give us; for You reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING

Colossians 3:1–11

L: The first reading for the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost is from Colossians chapter three.

We are encouraged to live as the people we are in Christ.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY

Psalm 100

L: Know that the Lord, He is God!

It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.

C: Know that the Lord, He is God!

It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.

L: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into His presence with singing!

Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise!

Give thanks to Him; bless His name!

**For the Lord is good; His steadfast love endures forever,
and His faithfulness to all generations.**

C: Know that the Lord, He is God!

It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.

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.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 12:13–21

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

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Trust in the Giver of all that is good.

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

Son of God, Eternal Savior

Hymnal p. 842

**Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race,
You our Head, who, throned in glory,
For Your own will ever plead: Fill us with Your love and pity,
Heal our wrongs, and help our need.**

**As You, Lord, have lived for others, So may we for others live.
Freely have Your gifts been granted; Freely may Your servants give.
Yours the gold and Yours the silver, Yours the wealth of land and sea;
We but stewards of Your bounty Held in solemn trust will be.**

**Come, O Christ, and reign among us, King of love and Prince of Peace;
Hush the storm of strife and passion, Bid its cruel discords cease.**

**By Your patient years of toiling, By Your silent hours of pain,
Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure, Stem our selfish greed of gain.**

**Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race:
By Your praying, by Your willing That Your people should be one,
Grant, O grant our hope's fruition: Here on earth Your will be done.**

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SERMON³

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

VOLUNTARY

Praise and Thanksgiving

John Barr

OFFERING SONG

Take My Life and Let it Be

Hymnal p. 783 sts. 1,4 &6

**Take my life and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days. Let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my silver and my gold. Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.**

**Take my love, my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all for Thee.**

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 to aid those using the handrail. 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 HYMNS

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."**

Brightest and Best

Hymnal p. 400

**Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.**

**Cold on His cradle the dewdrops are shining;
Low lies His head with the beasts of the stall;
Angels adore Him in slumber reclining,
Maker and Monarch and Savior of all.**

**Shall we not yield Him, in costly devotion
Fragrance of Edom and off'rings divine,
Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,
Myrrh from the forest and gold from the mine?**

**Vainly we offer each ample oblation,
Vainly with gifts would His favor secure.
Richer by far is the heart's adoration;
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.**

**Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.**

VOLUNTARY

Holy Manna

David Kidwell

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

Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

Hymnal p. 660

**Stand up, stand up for Jesus! Ye soldiers of the cross;
Lift high His royal banner, It must not suffer loss:
From vict'ry unto vict'ry, His army shall He lead,
Till every foe is vanquished, And Christ is Lord indeed.**

**Stand up, stand up for Jesus! The trumpet call obey:
Stand forth in mighty conflict, In this His glorious day;
Let all the faithful serve Him Against unnumbered foes;
Let courage rise with danger, And strength to strength oppose.**

**Stand up, stand up for Jesus! Stand in His strength alone,
The arm of flesh will fail you, Ye dare not trust your own;
Put on the gospel armor, Each piece put on with prayer,
Where duty calls or danger, Be never wanting there.**

**Stand up, stand up for Jesus! The strife will not be long;
This day the din of battle, The next the victor's song;
The soldiers overcoming, Their crown of life shall see;
And with the King of glory Shall reign eternally.**

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

Toccata on "Old Hundredth"

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

