

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

The Reverend Ronald Breight	Pastor
Vincent Mroz	Reverend
Douglas Skalka	Organist
John Crawford	Worship Assistant
Tammy Donaldson	Lector
Madeline Stoner	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 streamed on our Facebook page.

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The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 7, 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

A Lyric Prayer

David Lasky

RINGING OF THE BELLS/ WELCOME

OPENING HYMN *(please rise and sing)*

Before You, Lord, We Bow

Hymnal p. 966

Before You, Lord, we bow, Our God who reigns above
And rules the world below, Boundless in pow'r and love.
Our thanks we bring In Joy and praise, Our hearts we raise
To You, our King!

The nation You have blest May well Your love declare,
From foes and fears at rest, Protected by Your care.
For this bright day, For this fair land—Gifts of Your hand—
Our thanks we pay.

May ev'ry mountain height, Each vale and forest green,
Shine in Your Word's pure light, And its rich fruits be seen!
May ev'ry tongue Be tuned to praise And join to raise
A grateful song.

Earth, hear your Maker's voice; Your great Redeemer own;
Believe, obey, rejoice, And worship Him alone.
Cast down your pride, Your sin deplore,
And bow before The Crucified.

And when in pow'r He comes, Oh, may our native land
From all its rending tombs Send forth a glorious band,
A countless throng, With joy to sing
To heav'n's high King Salvation's song!

CONGREGATIONAL GREETINGS

BAPTISM

Hymnal p. 268

Zakary Aiden D'Alessandro

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: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

O merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow

Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 30:15–20

L: The first reading is from Deuteronomy chapter thirty.

The Lord sets before us life and good, death and evil.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY

Psalm 1

L: For the Lord knows the ways of the righteous,
But the way of the wicked will perish.

**C: For the Lord knows the ways of the righteous,
But the way of the wicked will perish.**

L: Blessèd is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
Nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

**C: For the Lord knows the ways of the righteous,
But the way of the wicked will perish.**

L: He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its
season, and its leaf does not wither.
In all that he does, he prospers.

**C: For the Lord knows the ways of the righteous,
But the way of the wicked will perish.**

L: The wicked are not so,
But are like chaff that the wind drives away.

**C: For the Lord knows the ways of the righteous,
But the way of the wicked will perish.**

L: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
Nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

**C: For the Lord knows the ways of the righteous,
But the way of the wicked will perish.**

**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

Philemon 1–21

L: The second reading is from Philemon.

*Paul commends the slave Onesimus back to his master,
not only as a slave but as a brother in the Lord.*

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. *(Samuel 3.9; John 6.68)*

C: *(sung)* Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 14:25–35

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

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

*Jesus speaks of the cost of discipleship and calls on those
who would follow Him to deny themselves and take up the cross.*

Following the reading...

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, 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

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

Hymnal p. 427

In the cross of Christ I glory,
Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.

All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime.

When the woes of life o'ertake me,
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me;
Lo, it glows with peace and joy.

When the sun of bliss is beaming
Light and love upon my way,

**From the cross the radiance streaming
Adds more luster to the day.
Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure
By the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no measure,
Joys that through all time abide.**

SERMON³

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

VOLUNTARY

Jesus Loves the Little Children

Mavin Gaspard

OFFERING HYMN

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.**

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.

CHOIR

Ye Servants of God

Lani Smith

Ye servants of God, your master proclaim,
and publish abroad His wonderful name.

The name all victorious, of Jesus extol;
His kingdom is glorious, He rules over all.

God rulers on high, Almighty to save,
and still, He is nigh, His presence we have;
the great congregation, his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation to Jesus, our king.

Salvation to God who sits on the throne!

Let all cry aloud and honor the Son;
The praises of Jesus, the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.

Then let us adore and give Him His right
all glory and power and wisdom,
and might, all honor and blessing with angels above,
and thanks never ceasing and infinite love.

Praise the Lord, all ye servants of God!

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior

Hymnal p. 619

**Thy body, giv'n for me, O Savior,
Thy blood which Thou for me didst shed,
These are my life and strength forever,
By them my hungry soul is fed.**

***Refrain:* Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood
Be for my soul the highest good!**

**With Thee, Lord, I am now united;
I live in Thee and Thou in me.**

**No sorrow fills my soul, delighted
It finds its only joy in Thee. *Refrain:***

**Who can condemn me now?
For surely The Lord is nigh, who justifies.**

**No hell I fear, and thus securely
With Jesus I to heaven rise. *Refrain***

Though death may threaten with disaster,

It cannot rob me of my cheer;
For He who is of death the master
With aid and comfort e'er is near, *Refrain:*
My heart has now become Thy dwelling,
O blessed, holy Trinity.
With angels I, Thy praises telling,
Shall live in joy eternally. *Refrain:*

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Jesus Christ, our blessed Savior Hymnal p. 627

Jesus Christ, our blessed Savior, Turned away God's wrath forever;
By His bitter grief and woe He saved us from the evil foe.
As His pledge of love undying, He, this precious food supplying,
Gives His body with the bread, And with the wine the blood He
shed.

Jesus here Himself is sharing; Heed then how you are preparing,
For if you do not believe, His judgment then you shall receive.
Praise the Father, who from heaven To His own this food has given,
Who, to mend what we have done, Gave into death His only Son.

Firmly hold with faith unshaken That this food is to be taken
By the sick who are distressed, By hearts that long for peace and rest.

Agony and bitter labor Were the cost of God's high favor;
Do not come if you suppose You need not Him who died and rose.
Christ says: "Come, all you that labor, And receive My grace and
favor:

Those who feel no pain or ill Need no physician's help or skill.

"For what purpose was My dying If not for your justifying?
And what use this precious food If you yourself were pure and
good?"

If your heart this truth professes And your mouth your sin confesses,
You will be your Savior's guest, Be at His banquet truly blest.

**Let this food your faith so nourish That its fruit of love may flourish
And your neighbor learn from you How much God's wondrous love
can do.**

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VOLUNTARY

From God Will Nothing Move Me

Ralph C. Schultz

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. Amen.**

POST COMMUNION COLLECT

P: 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

Take My Life and Let It Be

Hymnal p. 783

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 hands and let them move At the impulse of Thy love;

Take my feet and let them be Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice and let me sing Always, only for my King;

Take my lips and let them be Filled with messages from Thee.

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 will and make it Thine, It shall be no longer mine;

Take my heart, it is Thine own, It shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its treasure store;

Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all for Thee.

POSTLUDE

Fanfare-Dialogue on "Beecher"

Martin Ellis

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

