

# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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The Reverend Ronald Breight	Pastor
Douglas Skalka	Organist
Barry Schoenthal	Worship Assistant
Annette Bowen	Lector
Nate Patsko	Acolyte
Missionaries: The Rev. Vincent Mroz; 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 14, 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

Cantabile on "Faithfulness"

Martin Ellis

## 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!

\*many/various

## 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.

## CONFESSION<sup>1</sup>

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.

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;

give me understanding according to Your Word!

Let my plea come before You;

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,

for You teach me Your statutes.

My tongue will sing of Your word,

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,

for I have chosen Your precepts.

I long for Your salvation, O Lord,

and Your Law is my delight.

Let my soul live and praise You,

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.

I am the light of the world, says the Lord.

Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness

but will have the light of life.

*cf John 8.12*

**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' CREED<sup>2</sup>**

**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**

**Chief of Sinners Though I Be**

Hymnal p. 611

Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed His blood for me,  
Died that I might live on high, Lives that I might never die.  
As the branch is to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.

Oh, the height of Jesus' love, Higher than the heav'ns above,  
Deeper than the depths of sea, Lasting as eternity!  
Love that found me wondrous thought  
Found me when I sought Him not.

Only Jesus can impart Balm to heal the wounded heart,  
Peace that flows from sin forgiven, Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n,  
Faith and hope to walk with God In the way that Enoch trod.

Chief of sinners though I be, Christ is all in all to me;  
All my wants to Him are known, All my sorrows are His own.  
He sustains the hidden life Safe with Him from earthly strife.

O my Savior, help afford By Your Spirit and Your Word!  
When my wayward heart would stray, Keep me in the narrow way;  
Grace in time of need supply While I live and when I die.

## **SERMON<sup>3</sup>**

## **OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS**

## **VOLUNTARY**

Jesus Sinners Doth Receive

Robert J. Powell

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

**My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less**

Hymnal p. 575

**My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;**

**No merit of my own I claim But wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

**On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.**

**When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;**

**In ev'ry high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil.**

**On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.**

**His oath, His covenant and blood Support me in the raging flood;**

**When ev'ry earthly prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.**

**On Christ, the solid rock, I stand, All other ground is sinking sand.**

**When He shall come with trumpet sound, Oh, may I then in Him be found,**

**Clothed in His righteousness alone, Redeemed to stand before His throne!**

**On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.**

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**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

The Joyful Trumpet

Gene Clarke

<sup>1</sup>*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.

<sup>2</sup>*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.

<sup>3</sup>Martin 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.*