

# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Celebrating 93 Years in Forest Hills**

400 Barclay Avenue Forest Hills, PA 15221  
412-271-7173      [www.christlutheranfh.org](http://www.christlutheranfh.org)  
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|                             |                   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| The Reverend Ronald Breight | Pastor            |
| Douglas Skalka              | Organist          |
| Barry Schoenthal            | Worship Assistant |
| Annette Bowen               | Lector            |
| Julia Stoner                | Acolyte           |

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 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026

### 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

Meditation on "Our Parents by Whose Name"

John Barr

#### RINGING OF THE BELLS/ WELCOME

*(Refrain)* **Father welcomes all His children  
to His family through His Son.**

**Father giving His salvation,  
Life forever has been won.**

**Little children, come to Me,  
For My kingdom is of these.  
Life and love I have to give,  
Mercy for your sin. *(Refrain)***

**In the water, in the Word,  
In His promise, be assured:  
Those who are baptized and believe  
shall be born again. *(Refrain)***

**Let us daily die in sin;  
Let us daily rise with Him,  
Walk in the love of Christ our Lord,  
Live in the peace of God. *(Refrain)***

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**BAPTISM**

Hymnal p. 269

**Gavin John Timothy Barch**

**SONG OF PRAISE**

Hymnal p. 537

**Beautiful Savior, King of Creation  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Truly I'd love Thee, truly I'd serve Thee,  
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands,  
Robed in the flowers of blooming spring;  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,  
He makes our sorrowing spirit sing.**

**Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight,  
Bright the sparkling stars on high;  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer  
Than all the angels in the sky.  
Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration  
Now and forevermore be Thine!**

**COLLECT**

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**P:** Blessed Lord, since 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 we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

**FIRST READING**

Isaiah 55:10-13

**L:** The first reading is from Isaiah, chapter fifty five.

*God's powerful Word for all.*

*Following the reading...*

**L:** This is the Word of our Lord.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALMODY** *based on Psalm 65*

Hymnal p. 893 sts. 1,2

**Sing to the Lord of harvest, Sing songs of love and praise;  
With joyful hearts and voices Your alleluia raise.  
By Him the rolling seasons In fruitful order move;  
Sing to the Lord of harvest A joyous song of love.**

**God makes the clouds rain goodness, The deserts bloom and spring,  
The hills leap up in gladness, The valleys laugh and sing.  
God fills them with His fullness, All things with large increase;  
He crowns the year with blessing, With plenty and with peace.**

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## **SECOND READING**

Romans 8:12–17

**L:** The second reading is from chapter eight of Romans.

*Life through the Spirit.*

*Following the reading...*

**L:** This is the Word of our Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

## **HOLY GOSPEL**

Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23

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

**C:** Glory to You, O Lord.

*The parable of the sower.*

*Following the reading...*

**P:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C:** Praise to You, 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.**

Speak, O Lord, Your servant listens  
Let Your Word to me come near;  
Newborn life and spirit give me,  
Let each promise still my fear.  
Death's dread pow'r, its inward strife,  
Wars against Your Word of life;  
Fill me, Lord, with love's strong fervor  
That I cling to You forever!  
Oh, what blessing to be near You  
And to listen to Your voice;  
Let me ever love and hear You,  
Let Your Word be now my choice!  
Many hardened sinners, Lord,  
Flee in terror at Your Word;  
But to all who feel sin's burden  
You give words of peace and pardon.  
Lord, Your words are waters living  
When my thirsting spirit pleads.  
Lord, Your words are bread lifegiving;  
On Your words my spirit feeds,  
Lord, Your words will be my light  
Through death's cold and dreary night;  
Yes, they are my sword prevailing  
And my cup of joy unfailing!  
As I pray, dear Jesus, hear me;  
Let Your words in me take root.  
May Your Spirit e'er be near me  
That I bear abundant fruit.  
May I daily sing Your praise,  
From my heart glad anthems raise,  
Till my highest praise is given  
In the endless joy of heaven.

## SERMON<sup>3</sup>

## INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

## OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

## VOLUNTARY

Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast

Valerie A. Floeter

## OFFERING SONG

Hymnal p. 781 sts. 1 & 2

We give Thee but Thine own,  
Whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is Thine alone,  
A trust, O Lord from Thee.  
May we Thy bounties thus  
As stewards true receive  
And gladly, as Thou blessest us,  
To Thee our first-fruits give!

## 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

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.

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: 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**

Hymnal p. 917

Savior, again to Thy dear name we raise  
With one accord our parting hymn of praise;  
Once more we bless Thee ere our worship cease,  
Then, lowly bending, wait Thy word of peace.

Grant us Thy peace upon our homeward way;  
With Thee began, with Thee shall end, the day.  
Guard Thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,  
That in this house have called upon Thy name.

Grant us Thy peace, Lord, through the coming night;  
Turn Thou for us its darkness into light.  
From harm and danger keep Thy children free;  
For dark and light are both alike to Thee.

Grant us Thy peace throughout our earthly life,  
Our balm in sorrow and our stay in strife;  
Then, when Thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,  
Call us, O Lord, to Thine eternal peace.

**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

Trumpet Tune on "Gwalchmai"

Dennis Janzer

<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.*

