

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Celebrating 93 Years in Forest Hills

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

The Reverend Ronald Breight	Pastor
Douglas Skalka	Organist
Rich Mueller	Worship Assistant
Annette Bowen	Lector
Ryder Giovanetti	Acolyte

Sunday bulletins, news, puzzles, and sermons are available on our website listed above.
Services are live-streamed on our Facebook page listed above.

+++++

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 16th, 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

In the Garden

Ann Slowins

RINGING OF THE BELLS/ WELCOME

Seek ye first the kingdom of God.

And His righteousness.

And all these things shall be added unto you! Allelu, alleluia!

Ask and it shall be given unto you.

Seek and ye shall find.

Knock and the door shall be opened unto you, Allelu, Alleluia!

Man does not live by bread alone,

But by ev'ry word

That proceeds from the mouth of the Lord, Allelu, Alleluia!

Text and music:©1972 Maranatha! Music; admin. Music Services (ASCAP) Used by permission CCLI License #185292

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. 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: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting Father, You give Your children many blessings even though we are undeserving. In every trial and temptation grant us steadfast confidence in Your loving-kindness and mercy; 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 56:1, 6–8

L: The first reading is from Isaiah, chapter fifty-six.

The Lord's salvation comes for all peoples.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALMODY

Psalm 67

L: Let the peoples praise You, O God;
let all the peoples praise You!

C: **Let the peoples praise You, O God;
let all the peoples praise You!**

L: May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make His face shine upon us.
That Your way may be known on Earth,
Your saving power among all nations.

C: **Let the peoples praise You, O God;
let all the peoples praise You!**

L: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for You judge the people with equity and guide the nations upon Earth.

Let the peoples praise You, O God;
let all the peoples praise You!

**C: Let the peoples praise You, O God;
let all the peoples praise You!**

L: The Earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, shall bless us.
God shall bless us;
let all the ends of the earth fear Him!

**C: Let the peoples praise You, O God;
let all the peoples praise You!**

**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

Romans 11:1–2a, 13–15, 28–32

L: The second reading is from chapter eleven of Romans.

God will reveal His mercy to all people.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 15:21–28

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

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

There are enough of Jesus' blessings that all people can share in them.

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

Hymnal p. 729

I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus, Trusting only Thee;
Trusting Thee for full salvation, Great and free.

I am trusting Thee for pardon; At Thy feet I bow,
For Thy grace and tender mercy Trusting now.

I am trusting Thee for cleansing In the crimson flood;
Trusting Thee to make me holy By Thy blood.

I am trusting Thee to guide me; Thou alone shalt lead,
Ev'ry day and hour supplying All my need.

I am trusting Thee for power; Thine can never fail.
Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me Must prevail.

I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus; Never let me fall.
I am trusting Thee forever And for all.

SERMON³

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

VOLUNTARY

Allegretto

Cubbert Harris

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.**

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.**

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 HYMN

Hymnal p. 547

The lamb, the Lamb, O Father, where's the sacrifice?
 Faith sees, believes God will provide the Lamb of price!

Refrain: Worthy is the lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

The Lamb, the Lamb, One perfect final offering.
 The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing. *Refrain*
 The Lamb, the Lamb, As wayward sheep their shepherd kill
 So still, His will On our behalf the law to fill. *Refrain*

He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretchedness.
He lives, forgives, He gives me His own righteousness. *Refrain*

He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now overflows.
His song prolong Till ev'ry heart to Him belong. *Refrain.*

Text and music: ©1987 MorningStar Music Publishers. Used by permission. Lutheran Service Book Hymn License # 100014542

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Hymnal p. 641

*Refrain: You satisfy the hungry heart With gift of finest wheat.
Come give to us, O saving Lord, The bread of life to eat.*

As when the shepherd calls his sheep,
They know and heed his voice;
So when You call Your fam'ly, Lord, We follow and rejoice. *Refrain:*

With joyful lips we sing to You Our praise and gratitude
That You should count us worthy, Lord,
To share this heav'nly food. *Refrain:*

Is not the cup we bless and share
The blood of Christ outpoured?
Do not one cup, one loaf, declare Our oneness in the Lord? *Refrain:*

The myst'ry of Your presence, Lord, No mortal tongue can tell:
whom all the world cannot contain
Comes in our hearts to dwell. *Refrain:*

You give Yourself to us, O Lord; Then selfless let us be,
To serve each other in Your name
In truth and charity. *Refrain:*

Text and music: ©1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia Used by permission. Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014542.

VOLUNTARY

Voluntary on "Charleston"

Dennis Janzer

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

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

Postlude on "St. Denio"

William H. Bates

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.

