

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

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The Reverend Ronald Breight	Pastor
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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 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rally Day

September 13, 2026

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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

Adagietto

David Lasky

RINGING OF THE BELLS/ WELCOME

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!

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: 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.**

SERVICE OF THE WORD

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.**

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.

O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of Your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: *(sung)* **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Genesis 50:15–21

L: The first reading for the sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost is from chapter fifty of Genesis.

Joseph and his brothers are reconciled.

Following the reading...

L: This is the Word of our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY *based on Psalm 103*

Hymnal p. 814, sts. 1,3,5,6

**O Bless the Lord, my soul! Let all within me join
And aid my tongue to bless His name Whose favors are divine.**

**‘Tis He forgives the sins; ‘Tis He relieves thy pain;
‘Tis He that heals thy sicknesses And makes thee young again.**

**He fills the poor with good; He gives the suff’ers rest.
The Lord hath judgments for the proud And justice for th’oppressed.**

**His wondrous works and ways He made by Moses known,
But sent the world His truth and grace By His beloved Son.**

SECOND READING

Romans 14:1–12

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

We belong to 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.

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.**

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

C: *(sung)* **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

The parable of the servant who would not forgive.

Following the reading...

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: *(sung)* **Praise be to Thee, 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. 862

**Oh, blest the house, whate'er befall,
Where Jesus Christ is all in all!
A home that is not wholly His
How sad and poor and dark it is!**

**Oh, blest that house where faith is found
And all in hope and love abound;
They trust their God and serve Him still
And do in all His holy will!**

**Oh, blest the parents who give heed
Unto their children's foremost need
And weary not of care or cost.
May none to them and heav'n be lost!**

Oh, blest that house; I prospers well.
In peace and joy the parents dwell,
And in their children's lives is shown
How richly God can bless His own
Then here will I and mine today
A solemn promise make and say:
Though all the world forsake His Word,
I and my house will serve the Lord!

SERMON³ - *Free to Sit Still*

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

VOLUNTARY

Come Down, O Love Divine

Raymond H. Haan

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.

CONFIRMATION HYMN (*please be seated*)

Our Lord and God, oh, bless this day And hear us, we implore Thee;
None of Thy children turn away Who now appear before Thee.
We come before Thy face and pray: Let Thy rich grace
Descend from heav'n above In all Thy wondrous love
And keep us by Thy Spirit.
Oh, bless Thy Word to all the young; Let them, Thy truth possessing,
Bear witness true with heart and tongue, Their faith and ours confessing.
From mother's arms Thy grace With love did them embrace;
Baptized into Thy name, As Thine Thou didst them claim.
O Lord, as Thine now own them!

When they their vows today renew, Accept them with Thy favor;
And when they promise to be true, May they forget it never!
But they are weak and frail When Satan's hosts assail;
Oh, arm them with Thy might And grant that in the fight
They unto death be faithful!

And when they leave their childhood home, When Satan comes alluring,
May their baptismal grace become A refuge reassuring!
Blest he who then can say: "God's cov-'nant stands for aye"
He ne'er shall be undone Who trusts in God alone—
God is his mighty Father!

THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION

Hymnal p. 272

Nathan Thomas Patsko

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 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.

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *(sung)* **And with thy spirit.**

P: Bless we 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 unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: (*sung*) **Amen, amen, amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Hymnal p. 698

**May we Thy precepts, Lord, fulfill And do on earth our Father's will
As angels do above; Still walk in Christ, the living way,
With all Thy children and obey The law of Christian love.**

**So may we join Thy name to bless, Thy grace adore, Thy pow'r confess,
From sin and strife to flee. One is our calling, one our name,
The end of all our hopes the same, A crown of life with Thee.**

**Spirit of life, of love and peace, Unite our hearts, our joy increase,
Thy gracious help supply. To each of us the blessing give
In Christian fellowship to live, In joyful hope to die.**

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

Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing

Nancy Folkerts

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.*

³*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.

