



"My mouth shall speak of wisdom."

The Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

July 31, 2022

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

3384 Island Road ♦ Wantagh, New York



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THE HOLY EUCHARIST SUNDAY 9:00 AM

Please stand.

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, +one God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

A brief silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.

P: Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of +Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves.

C: Amen.

GATHERING SONG

Be Thou My Vision Hymn # 793

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

P: Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives.
Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

The assembly is seated.

FIRST READING: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

The teacher of wisdom who wrote Ecclesiastes sees that working for mere accumulation of wealth turns life into an empty game, a “vanity of vanities.” Nevertheless, he asserts in the next verse, it is good to find enjoyment in one’s work because such enjoyment is a gift from God.

A: A reading from Ecclesiastes—

^{1,2}Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹²I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem,

¹³applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with.

¹⁴I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

^{2:18}I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me

¹⁹—and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity.

²⁰So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun,

²¹because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil.

²²What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun?

²³For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

The word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 49:1-12

“My mouth shall speak of wisdom.”

P: ¹Hear this, all you peoples; give ear, all you who dwell in the world,

C: ²you of high degree and low, rich and poor together.

P: ³My mouth shall speak of wisdom, and my heart shall meditate on understanding.

C: ⁴I will incline my ear to a proverb and set forth my riddle upon the harp.

P: ⁵Why should I be afraid in evil days, when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,

C: ⁶the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess, and boast of their great riches?

P: ⁷One can never redeem another, or give to God the ransom for another's life;

C: ⁸for the ransom of a life is so great that there would never be enough to pay it,

P: ⁹in order to live forever and ever and never see the grave.

C: ¹⁰For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish and leave their wealth to those who come after them.

P: ¹¹Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation to generation, though they had named lands after themselves.

C: ¹²Even though honored, they cannot live forever; they are like the beasts that perish.

SECOND READING: Colossians 3:1-11

Life in Christ includes a radical reorientation of our values. Just as the newly baptized shed their old clothes and put on new garments, so Christians are called to let go of greed and take hold of a life shaped by God's love in Christ.

A: A reading from Colossians—

¹So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth,

³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

⁵Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry).

⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient.

⁷These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life.

⁸But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth.

⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices

¹⁰and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator.

¹¹In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

The word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as we welcome the Gospel.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 12:13-21

In God's reign, the "rich will be sent away empty." Jesus uses a parable to warn against identifying the worth of one's life with the value of one's possessions rather than one's relationship with God.

¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me."

¹⁴But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?"

¹⁵And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions."

¹⁶Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly.

¹⁷And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?'

¹⁸Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.

¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'

²⁰But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?'

²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

Silence for reflection follows the Sermon.

MEDITATION

Tho' Tis All But A Dream by Thomas Moore (Flute Duet feat. Brandon Arva & Nicole Nicholson)

Please stand.

CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day He rose again;
He ascended into Heaven,
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Petition Response to "Merciful God:." **Receive our prayer.**

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the Lord.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of the Lord's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

The assembly is seated.

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the Church, including the care of those in need. Our offering baskets are located at the back of the Sanctuary.

OFFERTORY

Mercy Still Arr. by Heather Sorenson (feat. Brandon Arva & Nicole Nicholson, with Vocals by Kamelija Galijan-Curry and Piano)

Please stand.

OFFERING PRAYER

C: Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER (Pastor)

Please remain standing.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

The assembly is seated.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All who believe in the real presence of Christ in the Sacrament are invited to come forward to receive. Follow the instructions of the ushers. Children who have not yet received First Communion instruction are invited to come forward

for a blessing. If you are not comfortable receiving at this time, you are welcome to remain seated.

COMMUNION

COMMUNION MEDITATION

Here at This Table by Besig and Price

On Eagle's Wings (Piano)

Please stand.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: The God of peace, Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

God of Grace and God of Glory Hymn # 705

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

C: Thanks be to God.

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We Welcome All Visitors to our Services!

Please introduce yourself and sign our guest book on the desk in the Sanctuary. *Parents with Restless Children* may wish to move to the library, where a loudspeaker has been installed so that they may continue to follow the service in more comfortable surroundings.



Today's Altar Flowers Are Given

In Loving Memory of Her Brother, Charles Weibert,
on His Birthday Anniversary
by Carol Shoemaker

Serving Today

Presider: The Reverend Ron Klose

Lector: Roxanne Toomey

Altar Guild: Terry Ciro, Eileen Colton, Claudia Gross,
Lilly Ann Munnich, Carol Shoemaker

Counters: Robert Ahearn, John Gross, Hans Vogel

Usher: Robert Ahearn

Nicole Nicholson: Director of Music

Kamelija Galijan-Curry: Organist

Roxanne Toomey: Deacon

Della Rao: Parish Administrator, Christian Education Coordinator

Dana Antonette: Nursery School Director

Weekly Announcements

- Our congregation sends its sincere condolences to the loved ones of **Marilyn Beck**. Marilyn was a longtime, devoted member of CLC. She passed away peacefully on July 25, 2022. We pray that God has welcomed her with open arms into the Church Triumphant.
- The Church office is looking to donate several educational items. Some are located in the large box labeled “free” in the narthex. If you are interested in seeing more, please speak with Claudia Gross, Della Rao, or Barbara Stone.
- **Support Our Sunday School!** We are currently in need of teachers for our “Little Lambs” (pre-kindergarten) and level two classes. We are also looking for substitutes for all grade levels. Please speak with Claudia Gross or Della Rao if interested.
- Our Christian Education Committee is hard at work preparing curriculum for the 2022-2023 school year. If you’d like to register your child as a **new** student, please contact the Church office.
- Parents of incoming 7th and 8th-graders enrolled in our Confirmation Program were mailed an important letter about orientation this week. If you do not receive a letter, please contact the Church office right away.
- The Christian Nursery School’s Summer Program concluded this week. Thank you to our staff and students for another great year! We look forward to seeing many of you in September.
- WELCA is currently collecting donations for Layettees. **Items especially needed are:** bath soap, safety or diaper pins, and T-shirts (new or gently used). Please consider lending a hand!
- Preparations have begun for this fall’s Country Fair! If you or someone you know is affiliated with a business that would like to contribute to our raffle baskets, please speak with Regina Coons, Lilly Ann Munnich, or Della Rao.

St. John's Food Pantry

Your donations are appreciated. Thank you!

Campbell's Cream of Mushroom of Soup - Canned Fruit

Canned Chicken - Canned Salmon - Chili with Beans - Cooking Oil

Jell-O - Juice - Pudding Mix - Salad Dressing - Spaghetti

Please check the expiration dates on packaged foods before donating.

CLC This Week: July 31st through August 7th

Friday, August 5th: Thrift Shop, 9:00AM-3:00PM

Saturday, August 6th: Thrift Shop, 10:00AM-2:00PM

For a complete list of activities this month, please visit our website,
or check your latest copy of the Spire.

The Liturgical Color

The liturgical color of The Time After Pentecost is **green**. The color green indicates our growth in faith as we follow the teachings and ministry of Christ.

Support Our Local Churches!

- **Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Levittown** hosts "Food Truck Fridays" starting at 5PM, and their Farmers Market on Saturdays at 10AM (*weather permitting*).
- **St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Huntington Station**, in partnership with Abraham's Table of Long Island, invites you to participate in a panel discussion, to be held on August 4th, 7:30-9:00 PM, at the Suffolk Y Jewish Community Center in Commack. The topic is what the Long Island faith community can do to respond to rising hate crimes in our region. If you'd like to participate virtually, please visit abrahamstableli.org/events.



We Remember Especially Those On Our Prayer List

Debbie Becker - Ellen Bello - Bud Bilewich - James Cathcart
Danielle Chillemi - Eileen Colton - Sal Costanzo - Sue Costanzo
Marge Dahlberg - Mike Dauth - Joan Drake - Charlie Fisher
Travis Gentile - Betty Gibberman - Barbara Grieser - Joe Hanna
Barbara Hess - Arnold Howard - Carolyn Howard - Elaine Quigley Levano
Suzanne Marshall - Janet McShea - William McShea - Bill Miller
Marilyn Miller - James Pallas - Roberta Pfister - Barbara Proce
Gary Proce - Anthony Michael Rao IV - Catherine Rao
Bob Rath - Sheila Reeves - Emmett Reilly - Rose Reilly - Ann Reimer
Barbara Reimer - Della Dorn Rice - Helga Richert - Eunice Rischan
Natalie Stone - James Toomey - Laura Vogel

*To add a name to our prayer list, contact the Church office.
Names remain on the list for a period of six weeks per request.*



Christ Lutheran Church, Wantagh, New York

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Congregational Council

Hans Vogel, President - Nancy Pisani, Vice President
Barbara Stone, Treasurer - Kirsten Duprez, Secretary
The Rev. Dr. John Krahn - Regina Coons - Claudia Gross
Jeri Hallgren - Bill Henderson - James Sheridan
James Spiegle - Roxanne Toomey

Pastoral Call Committee

Eric Juergens, Chair - Dee Bloomfield - Eileen Colton
Bob Hasteadt - John Heron - Kay Riese