

Christ Lutheran Church
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The 8th Sunday After Pentecost (Year C)
Service of the Word ♦ August 3, 2025 ♦ 9:00AM

WELCOME!

It is an honor to have you here for worship. We hope that you will feel safe and comfortable in this holy house. A few may help you along the way:

- Most of what you will need is printed in this bulletin.
- *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW) is the source for hymns which are listed by number in the upper right- or left-hand corner of the page.

PROVIDING FOR THE YOUNGEST SAINTS

Children learn to worship by participating in the liturgy. The worship of the whole community is enhanced by their involvement. Should your little one need a break, please feel free to move about or to step out for a moment as may be helpful.

A star () invites you to stand as you are able.*

THE GATHERING RITE

*** CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Deacon: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Deacon: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin. Merciful God,

People: you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

Deacon: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ✝ Christ, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

All: Amen.

*** GATHERING HYMN #393: A HYMN OF GLORY LET US SING!**

*** GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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

People: And also with you.

Deacon: Let us pray.

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.

People: Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON: ECCLESIASTES 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

Lector: A reading from Ecclesiastes.

Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. I applied 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 humans to be busy with. I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun, and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to my successor, and who knows whether he will be wise or foolish? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, because 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. What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? For 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.

Lector: Word of God, Word of life.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 49:1-12

*The psalm will be read responsively; the people will read the **bold** text.*

Hear this, all you peoples; give ear, all you who dwell in the world,
you of high degree and low, rich and poor together.

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

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

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

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

All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O Lord,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE SECOND LESSON: COLOSSIANS 3:1-11

Lector: A reading from Colossians.

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

Lector: Word of God, Word of Life.

People: Thanks be to God.

* THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*** THE GOSPEL: LUKE 12:13-21**

Deacon: The Holy Gospel According to St. Luke, the 12th chapter.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" And 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." Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' Then 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. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' But 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?' So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

THE HOMILY

*** HYMN OF THE DAY #678: GOD, WHOSE GIVING KNOWS NO ENDING**

*** PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Each petition concludes, "God of grace..." to which the people are invited to respond, "Hear our prayer."

Deacon: Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

*** THE PEACE**

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

People: And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**OFFERTORY: PRELUDE FROM TE DEUM BY MARC ANTIONE
CHARPENTIER (FLUTE & PIANO)**

*** OFFERTORY HYMN #465: AS THE GRAINS OF WHEAT**

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were

gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from

all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with - in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when

Refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

*** OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Deacon: Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

All: Amen.

*** THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Deacon: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

People: 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 SENDING RITE

*** BLESSING**

Deacon: *The blessing is pronounced.*

People: Amen.

*** SENDING HYMN #376: THINE IS THE GLORY**

*** DISMISSAL**

Deacon: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

People: Thanks be to God.

Serving Today

Deacon: Roxanne Toomey

Director of Music: Nicole Nicholson

Guest Organist: Shira Fishkin

Altar Guild: Regina Coons, Doris Ohlander

Communion Assistant: Nancy Pisani

Counters: Doris & Roger Ohlander, Barbara Rath, Gene Veltri

Ushers: Robert Ahearn and Matt Murphy

Coffee Hour Hosts: Jan and John Eastlund and Claudia & John Gross

Announcements

All are invited to join us in Room 2000 following today's worship service for a special coffee hour celebrating Ruth Kollar's 101st birthday!

Jeri Hallgren would like to thank everyone for their continued support and prayers. She is very grateful to be at home, and getting better every day! She hopes to be back in church soon. Please continue to pray for her!

The LSS New Life Center is collecting school supplies for those in need. Items especially needed are backpacks, colored pencils, 2-inch binders, and looseleaf notebook paper. Donations may be left at the Church office.

The Bellmore-Merrick Annual Social Ministry Barbecue will be held on Wednesday, August 13th at 6PM. All are welcome to attend. To RSVP, please call Anita at 516-379-3858, or send an email to either stjmerrick@gmail.com or stjbellmore@gmail.com by August 4th.

St. John's Food Pantry

Please place donations in the bin in the hallway adjacent to the library. Needed items include beef/chicken stew, canned chicken, cooking oil, coffee, conditioner, corned beef hash, elbow noodles, facial tissue, hot

cereal, hot chocolate, ketchup, mustard, pancake mix & syrup, paper towels, peanut butter & jelly, salad dressing, and toothpaste. *Please check the expiration dates before donating.*



We Remember Those on the Prayer List

Judy Angeloch, Rebecca Breckel, Lorraine Buccalo, Kathleen Cardone, Becky Carlson, James Cathcart, Danielle Chillemi, Regina Coons, Sal and Sue Costanzo, Joan Drake, Kelly Dempsey, Betty Gibberman, Bill Gilmor, Emmy Grenzig, Barbara Grieser, Theresa Heenan, Arnold Howard, Steven Koch, Ruth Kollar, Susan & George Kremer, Jean Leib, Chris Mantay, Janet and William McShea, Marilyn Miller, Lilly Ann Munnich, John Nittoli, Anne Palkovich, James Pallas, Tyler Phelan, Barbara and Gary Proce, Catherine and Terri Rao, John Reardon, Emmett and Rose Reilly, Ann and Barbara Reimer, Della Dorn Rice, Kay Riese, Anne Scheirer, Joseph Arthur Skorupski, Donna Smith, Natalie Stone, James Toomey, Nancy Valenti, Laura Vogel. *To update a name on the prayer list, please contact the church office.*

Congregation Council

The Reverend Susan F. Sprowls, *Interim Deacon*
Matt Murphy, *President* • Kirsten Duprez, *Vice President*
Claudia Gross, *Secretary* •
Robert Ahearn • George Balduf • Regina Coons
Jeri Hallgren • Roxanne Toomey