

**WHY DO YOU PASS JUDGMENT ON YOUR BROTHER?
OR YOU, WHY DO YOU DESPISE YOUR BROTHER?
FOR WE WILL ALL STAND BEFORE THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF GOD.**

-- ROMANS 14:10 --



Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 13, 2020
8:00 AM, 9:15 AM, & 10:30 AM



Christ Lutheran Church
3509 SW Burlingame Rd.
Topeka, KS 66611
785-266-6263
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Rev. Ben Micheel, Pastor
Amanda Adams, DCE
Chris Francik, TLS Principal



Welcome and Opening Prayer

496 Holy Spirit, Light Divine

LSB 496



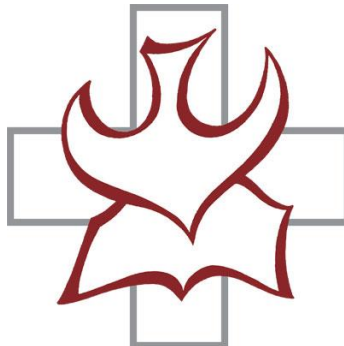
1 Ho - ly Spir - it, light di - vine, Shine up - on this heart of mine;
2 Let me see my Sav - ior's face, Let me all His beau - ties trace;
3 Ho - ly Spir - it, pow'r di - vine, Cleanse this guilt - y heart of mine;
4 Ho - ly Spir - it, joy di - vine, Cheer this sad - dened heart of mine;
5 Ho - ly Spir - it, all di - vine, Dwell with - in this heart of mine;



Chase the shades of night a - way, Turn the dark - ness in - to day.
Show those glo - rious truths to me Which are on - ly known to Thee.
In Thy mer - cy pit - y me, From sin's bond - age set me free.
Yield a sa - cred, set - tled peace, Let it grow and still in - crease.
Cast down ev - 'ry i - dol throne, Reign su - preme, and reign a - lone.

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Stand



Divine Service Setting Four, page 203

✠ Confession and Absolution ✠

Confession, to confess to God our sins and sinful nature. Absolution, “To absolve of sin and wrongdoing,” more specifically, to affirm God’s forgiveness to all who sincerely confess their sins to Him.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Exhortation

Psalm 124:8; Psalm 130:3–4; Luke 18:13 LSB 203

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.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession of Sins

LSB 203

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Absolution

[John 20:19–23] LSB 203

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Sit

Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29 LSB 204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

"Salutation" is a word from Latin meaning, "to salute" or "to greet." "Collect" (KAH-lekt), a brief structured prayer, usually consisting of five parts: address to God, basis for the prayer, petition, desired benefit or result, and trinitarian conclusion. The Collect of the Day also "collects" the message of the day's Gospel reading.

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

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 Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 50:15–21

A The Old Testament Reading is from Genesis, chapter 50.

¹⁵When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." ¹⁶So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Romans 14:1–12

A The Epistle is from Romans, chapter 14.

¹As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ²One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

⁵One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; ¹¹for it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall confess to God."

¹²So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

Alleluia

LSB 205



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Verse

John 20:31 LSB 205



C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that
Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia

LSB 205



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.


Deo Gratias

THANKS BE TO GOD

Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:21–35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

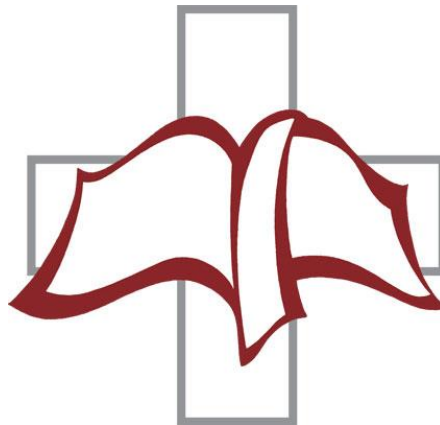
C Glory to You, O Lord.

²¹Peter came up and said to [Jesus], “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

²³“Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. ³²Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. ³⁵So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.



Nicene Creed

Creed comes from the Latin "credo" which means "I believe." We confess our Christian faith in one of the three creeds (short statement of belief) agreed upon by the ancient church.

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and
the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

501 Come Down, O Love Divine

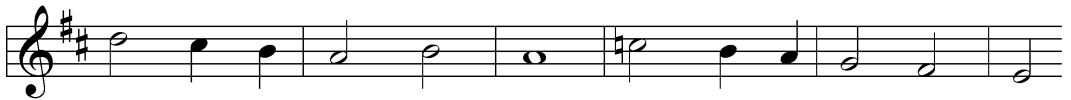
LSB 501



1 Come down, O Love di - vine; Seek Thou this soul of mine,
2 O let it free - ly burn, Till world - ly pas - sions turn
3 Let ho - ly char - i - ty Mine out - ward ves - ture be
4 And so the yearn - ing strong, With which the soul will long,



And vis - it it with Thine own ar - dor glow - ing;
To dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;
And low - li - ness be - come mine in - ner cloth - ing—
Shall far out - pass the pow'r of hu - man tell - ing;



O Com - fort - er, draw near; With - in my heart ap - pear,
And let Thy glo - rious light Shine ev - er on my sight,
True low - li - ness of heart, Which takes the hum - bler part,
No soul can guess His grace Till it be - come the place



And kin - dle it, Thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.
And clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.
And o'er its own short - com - ings weeps with loath - ing.
Where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes His dwell - ing.

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Sermon

Offering

For those gathered with us in-person, an offering plate will be at the back of the room for a contactless drop-off for your gifts, tithes, and offerings as you leave today's service.

For those still joining us remotely, we have multiple options for giving. You can text CHRISTLCMS to 77977 to give via text message, or sign up for online giving at pushpay.com/pay/christlcms for a one-time or recurring gift. Or, use the "My Church by PushPay" app, with keyword CHRISTLCMS. You may also mail your offering to the church office (3509 SW Burlingame Rd, Topeka, KS 66611).

Direct links with more information are available on the church website (christlcms.org/giving).

If you have prayer requests, please e-mail them to our church office (office@christlcms.org) or call the office at (785) 266-6263. We will include them in next week's service, and also share them with our prayer chain if desired.

Stand

Prayer of the Church

1 Timothy 2:1-4

*At the end of each petition, the pastor will say, "Lord, in Your mercy," to which the congregation will respond, "**Hear our prayer.**"*

- P** ...through Jesus Christ, Your son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136 LSB 208

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.

- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9 LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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 Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

(PAKS DOH-mee-nee), Latin for "peace of the Lord" (John 20:19).

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.



Agnus Dei

John 1:29 LSB 210

(AHG-noose DAY-ee). Latin for "Lamb of God."

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sit

Distribution

Communion is reserved for those who are members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod or members of a church body in fellowship with the LCMS unless special arrangements have been made with the pastor. The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first. Then they will distribute it to those who cannot come up to the front of the sanctuary due to physical ailments. Following that the ushers will dismiss the people from their pews to proceed to the front. All are invited up to receive a blessing.



974 Jesus Sinners Doth Receive

LSB 974



1 Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive; Oh, may all this
 2 We de - serve but grief and shame, Yet His words, rich
 3 Sheep that from the fold did stray No true shep - herd
 4 I, a sin - ner, come to Thee With a pen - i -



say - ing pon - der Who in sin's de - lu - sions
 grace re - veal - ing, Par - don, peace, and life pro -
 e'er for - sak - eth; Wea - ry souls that lost their
 tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, mer - cy show to



live And from God and heav - en wan - der! Here is
 claim; Here our ills have per - fect heal - ing. Firm - ly
 way Christ, the Shep - herd, gent - ly tak - eth In His
 me; Grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these



hope for all who grieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
 in these words be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
 arms that they may live: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
 words my soul re - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.

5 Oh, how blest it is to know:
 Were as scarlet my transgression,
 It shall be as white as snow
 By Thy blood and bitter passion;
 For these words I now believe:
 Jesus sinners doth receive.

6 Now my conscience is at peace;
 From the Law I stand acquitted.
 Christ hath purchased my release
 And my ev'ry sin remitted.
 Naught remains my soul to grieve:
 Jesus sinners doth receive.

7 Jesus sinners doth receive;
 Also I have been forgiven;
 And when I this earth must leave,
 I shall find an open heaven.
 Dying, still to Him I cleave:
 Jesus sinners doth receive.

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611 Chief of Sinners Though I Be

LSB 611



1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed His
 2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love, High - er than the
 3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part Balm to heal the
 4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in
 5 O my Sav - ior, help af - ford By Your Spir - it



blood for me, Died that I might live on high,
 heav'ns a - bove, Deep - er than the depths of sea,
 wound - ed heart, Peace that flows from sin for - giv'n,
 all to me; All my wants to Him are known,
 and Your Word! When my way - ward heart would stray,



Lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is
 Last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty! Love that found me—
 Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, Faith and hope to
 All my sor - rows are His own. He sus - tains the
 Keep me in the nar - row way; Grace in time of



to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.
 won - drous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.
 walk with God In the way that E - noch trod.
 hid - den life Safe with Him from earth - ly strife.
 need sup - ply While I live and when I die.

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509 Christ Is Surely Coming

LSB 509



1 Christ is sure - ly com - ing Bring - ing His re - ward,
2 See the ho - ly cit - y! There they en - ter in,
3 Grace be with God's peo - ple! Praise His ho - ly name!



Al - pha and O - me - ga, First and Last and Lord:
All by Christ made ho - ly, Washed from ev - 'ry sin:
Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it, Ev - er - more the same;



Root and Stem of Da - vid, Bril - liant Morn - ing Star;
Thirst - y ones, de - sir - ing All He loves to give,
Hear the cer - tain prom - ise From the e - ter - nal home:

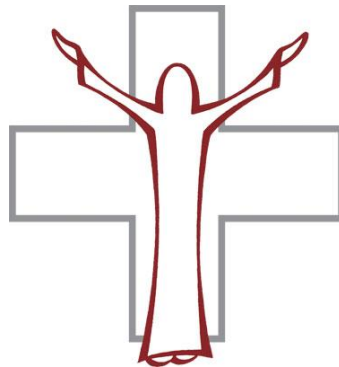


Meet your Judge and Sav - ior, Na - tions near and far!
Come for liv - ing wa - ter, Free - ly drink, and live!
"Sure - ly I come quick - ly! Come, Lord Je - sus, come!"

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Stand

Dismissal



Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32 LSB 211

(*NUNK dih-MIH-tuss*). Latin for “now [let your servant] depart,” from the Song of Simeon.



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All



part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the



glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;



A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is



to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -



peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.



Nunc Dimittis

SONG OF SIMEON

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Luther's Morning Prayer

C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.
Amen.

Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1 LSB 212

(beh-neh-dih-KAH-moose), Latin for "bless we [the Lord]." We give thanks to God for everything He has done for us in Jesus Christ.

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

A final blessing from God before we leave.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Sit

Acknowledgments

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1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low His ex -
 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus And with pa - tience
 3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death He
 4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en



am - ple pure, Through a world that would de - ceive us And to
 bear our cross. Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; Where He
 con - quered death, He will free us from de - struc - tion, Give to
 from the dead That to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus,



sin our spir - its lure. On - ward in His foot - steps tread - ing,
 is, there is no loss. Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter,
 us im - mor - tal breath. Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion
 You are now our head. We are Your own liv - ing mem - bers;



Pil - grims here, our home a - bove, Full of faith and
 We shall reap ce - les - tial joy; All dis - com - forts
 That would lead us in - to sin; And the grave that
 Where You live, there we shall be In Your pres - ence



hope and love, Let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful
 that an - noy Shall give way to mirth here - af - ter. Je - sus,
 shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heav - en. Je - sus,
 con - stant - ly, Liv - ing there with You for - ev - er. Je - sus,



Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where You guide.
 here I share Your woe; Help me there Your joy to know.
 here with You I die, There to live with You on high.
 let me faith - ful be, Life e - ter - nal grant to me.

-- Week at a Glance --

Sunday September 13	8:00, 9:15, & 10:30 am 9:15 am 5:00 pm	Worship Service w/ Communion Children's Sunday School (in gym) Youth Sunday School (in basement) Youth Group (7 th -12 th grades)
Monday September 14		
Tuesday September 15	9:00 am 6:30 pm	LWML Work Day Council Meeting
Wednesday September 16	4:00 pm 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Confirmation New Member Class Pastor's Bible Class
Thursday September 17		
Friday September 18		
Saturday September 19	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Men's Bible Study (via Zoom) Worship Service w/ Communion
Sunday September 20	8:00, 9:15, & 10:30 am 9:15 am	Worship Service w/ Communion Children's Sunday School (in gym) Youth Sunday School (in basement)

-- Announcements --

Celebrating

Birthdays: Hannah M., Audrey S. (14th); Trevor D., Barrett W. (15th); Addelynn M., Dave S. (16th); Erin S. (17th); Janet M. (18th); Mara G., Nicholas H., Tagen K., Taryn L. (19th); Chris C., Jaymee H., Micah J., Tevan W. (20th)

Baptism Birthdays: Noah B., Alan H. (13th); Deanna S. (14th); Lincoln S. (16th); Morgan C., Emmalynn H., Janet M. (18th); Damion B., Kerry D. (19th); Keenan G., Beau H., Gary M. (20th)

Anniversaries: Eric & Marne M. (15th); Matt & Lyn L. (18th)

Worship Service Updates

Due to changing regulations on gathering size, we now have four worship service times: Saturday evening at 5 pm, and Sunday morning at 8 am, 9:15 am, and 10:30 am. These services are now capped at 30 people each. We will continue offering the overflow seating in the gym for our 8 am service on Sundays. The live stream of the service will be played on a tv screen so that you can still participate in worship. Because of the larger space, we can still allow up to 45 in the overflow seating. For those seated in the gym, communion will now be brought to you in that location, rather than you coming to the sanctuary. Please continue to sign up through the church website. Thank you for your patience as we navigate this ever-changing situation!

Sunday School

We are excited to announce that we will start a 'new version' of children's Sunday school on Sunday, September 13th at 9:15am. It will be a parent/guardian led setup with several stations in the gym as we focus on one Bible story each week. We ask that you wear masks and use the hand sanitizer available. There will be instructions at each station and a volunteer to help if you have questions. You can sign up to attend on the church website.

Also beginning on Sept. 13th at 9:15 am, Amanda will lead the 7th-12th grade Sunday school class with a weekly Bible study in the youth room. We will have room to spread out - plan to wear your mask! Please sign up through the church website.

Bible Reading Challenge

As a congregation, we're going to start a "Gospel in 40 Days" Bible reading challenge in September. Pick up reading calendar in the coffee lobby or download a copy from our website. By reading a few chapters each day from Sept. 1st through Oct. 10th, you can make it through all four Gospels. (And we have a fun prize planned for those who finish!)

-- Announcements --

Outdoor Fellowship at Gary's Berries

Join us on Friday, Oct. 2nd for a fun night at Gary's Berries! We have reserved campfires #2 and #3 for our group – hot dogs, chips, s'mores, and water will be provided. Come and go as you please from 5 to 9 pm, and enjoy all of the fall activities offered. Advance tickets are \$9 each – children ages 2 and under are free. Tickets can be purchased through PushPay or the church office. Visit our website for more details.

Adult Bible Class

Join Pastor Ben on Wednesdays at 7 pm for a study on the coming week's lectionary readings – sign up to attend in-person, or e-mail the office to attend via Zoom.

LWML

We will meet for a work day this Tuesday (Sept. 15th) at 9 am in the church basement.

Thrivent Cards

Thrivent members -- if you have unused Action Teams, please contact Amanda Adams (dceadams@christlcms.org or 785-266-6263). We are planning multiple projects to help us continue connecting as a congregation and keeping us in God's Word during this time of limited in-person interaction.

Prayer Chain

Do you have a prayer request? Would you like to join our e-mail prayer chain? Contact the church office (office@christlcms.org).

Remembered in our Prayers

Charlie P., Alice M., Luke H., Betty C., Julie J., Don L., Brittian K. (Sondra K.'s grandson), Lance L., Jerry M., Bob T., Jean B. (sister Pauline C.'s sister), Judy P. (Lynne D.'s aunt), Mert B., Larry R., Ruu C., Angela (Mary D.'s daughter), Judy (Colleen B.'s neighbor), Noel (Colleen B.'s brother), Gary (Ruth S.'s son), Kathy (Brenda Z.'s sister-in-law), Jesse (Jamie H.'s son-in-law), Lee M., Martin E., Milton W., Anna (Frank J.'s mother), Shirley (Frank J.'s grandmother), Rene A. for a speedy adoption process for Barbara, our front line/essential workers, and others named in your heart. Pray for the Topeka Rescue Mission, the Schumachers and their ministry in Ghana, and missionaries around the world. We pray especially for those around the world being persecuted for their faith in the one, true God and the suffering they endure. Please continue to pray for Pastor Ben, Amanda, our staff and their families as they do our Lord's work here at Christ Lutheran. We pray for the staff and students of TLS and the Center for Young Children. We also pray for those who serve in the armed forces, first responders, and for our country and government. Prayers of thanksgiving for our Lord and Savior and the new life we have in Him.

Forgiving as the Lord Forgives Us

In settling His accounts with us, our Lord acts not with anger, but with compassion. He does not imprison us as we deserve, but He forgives all our debts and releases us (Matt. 18:23–27). Therefore, our Lord bids each of us to have “*mercy on your fellow servant*” and “*forgive your brother from your heart*” (Matt. 18:33, 35). By the Lord’s forgiveness of our sins, we are free to forgive those who sin against us, because He has been handed over to the jailers in our stead and He has paid our entire debt with His lifeblood. Whether we live or die, we “*are the Lord’s*” (Rom. 14:8). Since we all will “*stand before the judgment seat of God,*” we are not to despise our brother (Rom. 14:10), but gladly forgive him. By the grace of God, our brother also “*will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand*” (Rom. 14:4). Though we daily sin against each other, the Lord intends “*to bring it about that many people should be kept alive*” (Gen. 50:20). Jesus speaks kindly by His Gospel and promises: “*I will provide for you and your little ones*” (Gen. 50:21).

Offerings

We have multiple options for your gifts, tithes, and offerings. You can text CHRISTLCMS to 77977 to give via text message, or sign up for online giving at pushpay.com/pay/christlcms for a one-time or recurring gift. Or, use the “My Church by PushPay” app, with keyword CHRISTLCMS. You may also mail your offering to the church office (3509 SW Burlingame Rd, Topeka, KS 66611). Direct links with more information are available on the church website (christlcms.org/giving).

Stewardship Corner

<i>Budgeted Weekly Needs:</i>	\$ 7,300
<i>Offerings Received – Week of 9/6</i>	\$ 6,083
<i>Budgeted Needs (Jan-Aug)</i>	\$256,064
<i>Offerings Received (Jan-Aug)</i>	\$245,970

Romans 14:7 – “For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself.”
We just don’t belong to ourselves. We belong first of all to God, and, through Him, we belong to our neighbors. We are here to serve God in our service to one another. God has called you to this service through your vocation. As a Christian, you serve others in the church; as a neighbor, you serve others in society; and as a son or daughter, husband or wife, father or mother, you serve your family.