

**"By what authority are you doing these things,
and who gave you this authority?"**

Matthew 21:23



Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 27, 2020
8:00 AM, 9:15 AM, & 10:30 AM



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



Welcome and Opening Prayer

549 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

LSB 549



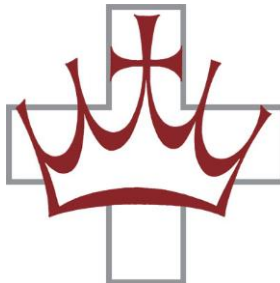
1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall;
2 Crown Him, ye mar-tyrs of our God, Who from His al - tar call;
3 Ye seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race, Ye ran - somed from the fall,
4 Hail Him, ye heirs of Da - vid's line, Whom Da - vid Lord did call,



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
The God in - car-nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
The God in - car-nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.



5 Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget
The wormwood and the gall,
Go, spread your trophies at His feet
And crown Him Lord of all.
Go, spread your trophies at His feet
And crown Him Lord of all.

7 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all.
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all.

6 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe,
On this terrestrial ball
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all.
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all.

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Divine Service Setting One, page 151

✠ 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

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

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

C Amen.

Exhortation

1 John 1:8–9 LSB 151

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination. Consider: Have you loved God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength? Have you loved your neighbor as yourself?

Confession of Sins

LSB 151

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Absolution

[John 20:19–23] LSB 151

- 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

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 147:1–5; antiphon: v. 6

- P** The LORD lifts up the humble;
- C** **he casts the wicked to the ground.**
- P** Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God;
- C** **for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.**
- P** The LORD builds up Jerusalem;
- C** **he gathers the outcasts of Israel.**
- P** He heals the brokenhearted
- C** **and binds up their wounds.**
- P** He determines the number of the stars;
- C** **he gives to all of them their names.**
- P** Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;
- C** **his understanding is beyond measure. 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.**
- P** The LORD lifts up the humble;
- C** **he casts the wicked to the ground.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

“Salutation” is a word from Latin meaning, “to greet.” “Collect” (KAH-lect), 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 al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32

A The Old Testament Reading is from Ezekiel, chapter 18.

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²“What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? ³As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. . . .

²⁵“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ²⁶When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. ²⁷Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. ²⁸Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?

³⁰“Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live.”

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

Philippians 2:1–4, 14–18

- A** The Epistle is from Philippians, chapter 2.

¹If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. . . .

¹⁴Do all things without grumbling or questioning, ¹⁵that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

Hebrew word meaning "praise the LORD." Also spelled "Hallelujah".

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. Below the staff, the lyrics are: "Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the". The second staff continues the melody with similar note values. Below it, the lyrics are: "words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." The piece ends with a double bar line.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:23–27

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.



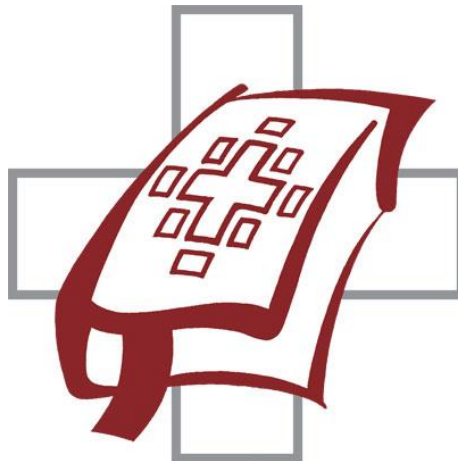
C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴Jesus answered them, “I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?” And they discussed it among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ ²⁶But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.”

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.

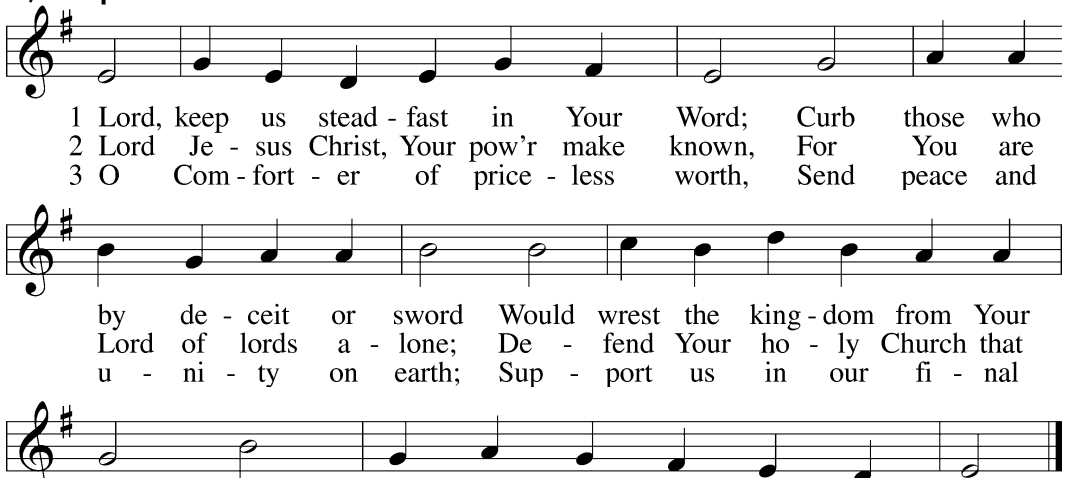
C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

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.

655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

LSB 655



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in Your Word; Curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and
by de - ceit or sword Would wrest the king - dom from Your
Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend Your ho - ly Church that
u - ni - ty on earth; Sup - port us in our fi - nal
Son And bring to naught all He has done.
we May sing Your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
strife And lead us out of death to life.

Text and tune: Public domain

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

Offertory

Psalm 116:12–13, 17–19 LSB 159



C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

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 160

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.

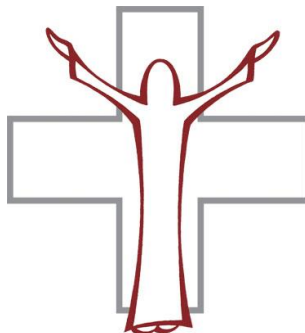
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface (Full)

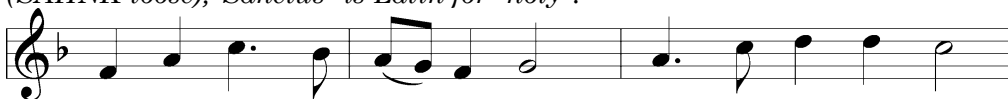
P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. 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 161

(SAHNK-toose), "Sanctus" is Latin for "holy".



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.



Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13 LSB 162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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

John 20:19 LSB 163

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

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



Agnus Dei

John 1:29 LSB 163

C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

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.



913 O Holy Spirit, Enter In

LSB 913



1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, en - ter in, And in our hearts
 2 Give to Your Word im - pres - sive pow'r, That in our hearts
 3 O might - y Rock, O Source of life, Let Your dear Word,



Your work be - gin, Your dwell - ing place now make us.
 from this good hour As fire it may be glow - ing,
 in doubt and strife, In us be strong - ly burn - ing



Sun of the soul, O Light di - vine, A - round and in
 That in true Chris - tian u - ni - ty We faith - ful wit -
 That we be faith - ful un - to death And live in love



us bright - ly shine, To joy and glad - ness wake us
 ness - es may be, Your glo - ry ev - er show - ing.
 and ho - ly faith, From You true wis - dom learn - ing.



That we may be Tru - ly liv - ing, To You giv - ing
 Hear us, cheer us By Your teach - ing; Let our preach - ing
 Your grace and peace On us show - er; By Your pow - er



Prayer un - ceas - ing And in love be still in - creas - ing.
 And our la - bor Praise You, Lord, and serve our neigh - bor.
 Christ con - fess - ing, Let us see our Sav - ior's bless - ing.

Tune and text: Public domain



543 What Wondrous Love Is This

LSB 543



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, When
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; To
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this That
 I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, When I was sink - ing down Be -
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free, I'll



caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread - ful curse for my
 neath God's righ - teous frown, Christ laid a - side His crown for my
 is the great I AM, While mil - lions join the theme, I will
 sing His love for me, And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, To bear the dread - ful curse for my soul!
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side His crown for my soul.
 sing, I will sing, While mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.
 on, I'll sing on, And through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

Tune and text: Public domain





1 At the name of Je - sus Ev - 'ry knee shall bow,
 2 At His voice cre - a - tion Sprang at once to sight,
 3 Hum - bled for a sea - son, To re - ceive a name
 4 Bore it up tri - um - phant With its hu - man light,



Ev - 'ry tongue con - fess Him King of glo - ry now.
 All the an - gel fac - es, All the hosts of light,
 From the lips of sin - ners Un - to whom He came,
 Through all ranks of crea - tures To the cen - tral height,



'Tis the Fa - ther's plea - sure We should call Him Lord,
 Thrones and bright do - min - ions, Stars up - on their way,
 Faith - ful - ly He bore it Spot - less to the last,
 To the throne of God - head, To the Fa - ther's breast,



Who from the be - gin - ning Was the might - y Word.
 All the heav'n - ly or - ders In their great ar - ray.
 Brought it back vic - to - rious When from death He passed;
 Filled it with the glo - ry Of that per - fect rest.

5 In your hearts enthrone Him;

There let Him subdue
 All that is not holy,
 All that is not true:
 Crown Him as your captain
 In temptation's hour;
 Let His will enfold you
 In its light and pow'r.

△ 7 Glory then to Jesus,
 Who, the Prince of light,
 To a world in darkness
 Brought the gift of sight;
 Praise to God the Father;
 In the Spirit's love
 Praise we all together
 Him who reigns above

Text and tune: Public domain

6 Christians, this Lord Jesus

Shall return again
 In His Father's glory,
 With His angel train;
 For all wreaths of empire
 Meet upon His brow,
 And our hearts confess Him
 King of glory now.

Stand

Dismissal

Thank the Lord

[Psalm 105:1-3, 42-43]; [1 Chronicles 16:8-10] LSB 164



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

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 A - men.



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.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26 LSB 166

A final blessing from God this morning 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 A - men.





1 God's own child, I glad - ly say it: I am bap - tized
 2 Sin, dis - turb my soul no long - er: I am bap - tized
 3 Sa - tan, hear this proc - la - ma - tion: I am bap - tized
 4 Death, you can - not end my glad - ness: I am bap - tized
 5 There is noth - ing worth com - par - ing To this life - long



in - to Christ! He, be - cause I could not pay it,
 in - to Christ! I have com - fort e - ven strong - er:
 in - to Christ! Drop your ug - ly ac - cu - sa - tion,
 in - to Christ! When I die, I leave all sad - ness
 com - fort sure! O - pen - eyed my grave is star - ing:



Gave my full re - demp - tion price. Do I need earth's
 Je - sus' cleans - ing sac - ri - fice. Should a guilt - y
 I am not so soon en - ticed. Now that to the
 To in - her - it par - a - dise! Though I lie in
 E - ven there I'll sleep se - cure. Though my flesh a -



trea - sures man - y? I have one worth
 con - science seize me Since my Bap - tism
 font I've trav - eled, All your might has
 dust and ash - es Faith's as - sur - ance
 waits its rais - ing, Still my soul con -



more than an - y That brought me sal -
 did re - lease me In a dear for -
 come un - rav - eled, And, a - gainst your
 bright - ly flash - es: Bap - tism has the
 tin - ues prais - ing: I am bap - tized



va - tion free Last - ing to e - ter - ni - ty!
giv - ing flood, Sprin - kling me with Je - sus' blood?
tyr - an - ny, God, my Lord, u - nites with me!
strength di - vine To make life im - mor - tal mine.
in - to Christ; I'm a child of par - a - dise!

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-- Week at a Glance --

Sunday September 27	8:00, 9:15, & 10:30 am 9:15 am 3:00 pm 5:00 pm	Worship Service w/ Communion Children's Sunday School (in gym) Youth Sunday School (in youth room) Jr. Youth (4 th -6 th grades) Youth Group (7 th -12 th grades)
Monday September 28		
Tuesday September 29	9:00 am	LWML Work Day
Wednesday September 30	4:00 pm 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Confirmation New Member Class Pastor's Bible Class
Thursday October 1		
Friday October 2	5:00 pm	Outdoor Fellowship at Gary's Berries
Saturday October 3	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Men's Bible Study (via Zoom) Worship Service w/ Communion
Sunday October 4	8:00, 9:15, & 10:30 am 9:15 am	Worship Service w/ Communion Children's Sunday School (in gym) Youth Sunday School (in youth room) God's Abiding Word: Luke (basement)

-- Announcements --

Celebrating

Birthdays: Daria H., Ian J., Alice M. (27th); Rylan M., Melissa W. (29th); Teresa H. (30th); Derek H. (2nd); Lily S. (3rd); Dani B. (4th)

Baptism Birthdays: Dan F., Jenni H., Christopher W. (27th); Judy C. (30th); Jon B., Kailey Lynn C., Randy H., Kimberly S. (1st); Cailin J. (2nd)

Anniversaries: Earl & Betsy P. (1st); Wylie & Ann-Marie B. (4th)

Worship Service Updates

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 40 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 offering a 'new version' of children's Sunday School on Sundays at 9:15 am. It is 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. The weekly lessons will also be available online each week through the "Members" section of our website. Contact the church office if you need the password.

Amanda is also leading the 7th-12th grade Sunday School class at 9:15 am 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.

Lutheran World Relief Truck

We will be loading the truck for LWR on Friday, October 9th from 9 am to noon. We will be taking safety precautions and wearing masks – volunteers needed (especially those able to do some heavy lifting)!

God's Abiding Word: Luke

For those who were attending this adult class back in March, we will resume this study on Sundays at 9:15 am in the church basement.

-- 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.

Trunk or Treat

We will be holding a drive-thru Trunk or Treat event in the parking lot on Saturday, Oct. 31st from 1 to 3 pm. Participants can drive through and look at all of the fun decorated vehicles from the safety of their own car, and will receive one goody bag per child at the end. We will have a candy donation box in the coffee lobby. If you are interested in decorating your car, please contact Amanda. Watch for more details soon!

All Saints' Day

We will be celebrating All Saints' Day at our worship services on October 31st and November 1st. If you have a family member who passed away since last November (2019) and would like their name included in the service those days, please contact the office.

Bible Reading Challenge

As a congregation, are holding a "Gospel in 40 Days" Bible reading challenge for the months of September and October. 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!)

Pastor's 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 on Tuesday, Sept. 29th 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.

-- Announcements --

Well Done!

After more than 30 years of faithful service to Topeka Lutheran School, Byron Jones has resigned his maintenance position at Topeka Lutheran School effective in late October. An open house will be held to honor Byron and his service to Topeka Lutheran School on Saturday, October 10 from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. This event will be held outdoors. An alternate rain date has also been scheduled if needed. Please join the TLS staff in thanking Byron for his many years of service.

TLS Maintenance Position

A part time maintenance position is now available at Topeka Lutheran School. Hours vary and tasks are completed on an as-needed basis. 10-15 hours is an average weekly amount of time needed for this position. Please contact Chris Francik at 785-357-0382 or francik@topekalutheran.org for a full job description and more information.

Job Opening

Prince of Peace is looking for an Administrative Assistant. If you are interested in applying for this position, send resume to: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 3625 SW Wanamaker Road, Topeka, Kansas 66614.

Prayer Chain

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

The Cross of Christ Opens to Us the Way of Repentance to Life with God

The way of the Lord is righteous and just: *“the soul who sins shall die”* (Ezek. 18:4). However, because the Lord has *“no pleasure in the death of anyone”* (Ezek. 18:32), He calls sinners to repentance and faith in His gracious forgiveness of sins. The man who is thus turned away from his wickedness, who henceforth lives by the grace of God, *“shall surely live; he shall not die”* (Ezek. 18:28). This way of repentance has been opened for us by the cross of Christ. In the righteousness of faith and love, *“he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death”* (Phil. 2:8), and He was vindicated in His resurrection from the dead. Indeed, *“God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name”* (Phil. 2:9). He has given us this name in our Baptism into Christ, in whom we now *“shine as lights in the world”* (Phil. 2:15). He uses the authority that He has received from His Father (Matt. 21:23–27) to preach a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, by which even *“the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God”* (Matt. 21:31–32).

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 9/20</i>	\$ 5,220
<i>Budgeted Needs (Jan-Aug)</i>	\$256,064
<i>Offerings Received (Jan-Aug)</i>	\$245,970

Matthew 21:26 – “But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are afraid of the crowd ...”
Foolish Pharisees! They fear men more than they fear God, and so they miss out on the great blessing of knowing Jesus and His love. All our sins are like this: we fear something more than we fear God. And how foolish that is! Just think of the blessings we miss out on whenever we place our fear or trust in something other than God.