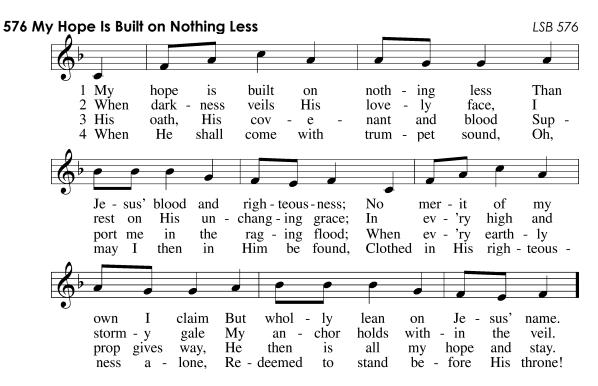


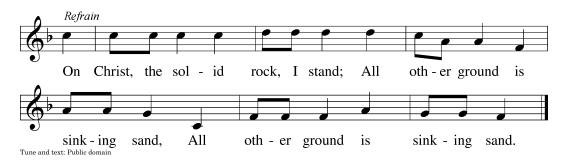
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost August 22, 2021 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM



As we gather this morning, please take time to fill out the fellowship pad located near the center aisle in your pew. If you have any prayer requests, feel free to use a prayer request card from the pew rack in front of you, and place it in the offering plate after the sermon. (For those joining us online, please contact the church office.) We will include these requests in our prayers during worship, and share them with our prayer chain (if desired).

## Welcome and Opening Prayer





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

- In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

## Exhortation

1 John 1:8–9 151

- **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**

- **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.

## Service of the Word

## Introit

Psalm 26:1-2, 6-7; antiphon: v. 8

- **P** O LORD, I love the habitation of your house
- **C** and the place where your glory dwells.
- P Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity,
- **C** and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.
- Prove me, O LORD, and try me;
- **C** test my heart and my mind.
- P I wash my hands in innocence and go around your altar, O LORD,
- **C** proclaiming thanksgiving aloud, and telling all your wondrous deeds. 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** O LORD, I love the habitation of your house
- **C** and the place where your glory dwells.



A Greek phrase meaning, "Lord, have mercy!" A brief prayer not only imploring God's mercy but rejoicing in it through Jesus Christ.

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



## **Kyrie**

**Gloria in Excelsis** 

P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.



## Salutation and Collect of the Day

"Salutation" is a word from Latin meaning, "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.



**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God, defend Your Church from all false teaching and error that Your faithful people may confess You to be the only true God and rejoice in Your good gifts of life and salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit



## **Old Testament Reading**

A The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 29.

<sup>11</sup>The vision of all this has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed. When men give it to one who can read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot, for it is sealed." <sup>12</sup>And when they give the book to one who cannot read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot read."

<sup>13</sup>And the Lord said: "Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me. and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men. <sup>14</sup>therefore, behold, I will again do wonderful things with this people, with wonder upon wonder; and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the discernment of their discerning men shall be hidden." <sup>15</sup>Ah, you who hide deep from the LORD your counsel, whose deeds are in the dark, and who say, "Who sees us? Who knows us?" <sup>16</sup>You turn things upside down! Shall the potter be regarded as the clay, that the thing made should say of its maker, "He did not make me": or the thing formed say of him who formed it, "He has no understanding"? <sup>17</sup>Is it not vet a very little while until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field. and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest? <sup>18</sup>In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book. and out of their gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind shall see. <sup>19</sup>The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the LORD, and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One of Israel.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

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#### A The Epistle is from Ephesians, chapter 5.

<sup>22</sup>Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. <sup>23</sup>For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. <sup>24</sup>Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

<sup>25</sup>Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, <sup>26</sup>that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, <sup>27</sup>so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. <sup>28</sup>In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. <sup>29</sup>For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, <sup>30</sup>because we are members of his body. <sup>31</sup> Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." <sup>32</sup>This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. <sup>33</sup>However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.



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

Stand

## Alleluia and Verse Hebrew word meaning "praise the LORD." Also spelled "Hallelujah". С 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.

## **Epistle**

## **Holy Gospel**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.



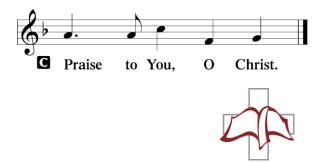
<sup>1</sup>When the Pharisees gathered to [Jesus], with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. <sup>3</sup>(For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands, holding to the tradition of the elders, <sup>4</sup>and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.) <sup>5</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" <sup>6</sup>And he said to them, "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written,

"This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me;
7in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."

<sup>8</sup>You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men."

<sup>9</sup>And he said to them, "You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition! <sup>10</sup>For Moses said, 'Honor your father and your mother'; and, 'Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.' <sup>11</sup>But you say, 'If a man tells his father or his mother, Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban' (that is, given to God)— <sup>12</sup>then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, <sup>13</sup>thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



### 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.

<b>C</b> ]	[ be]	lieve	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,

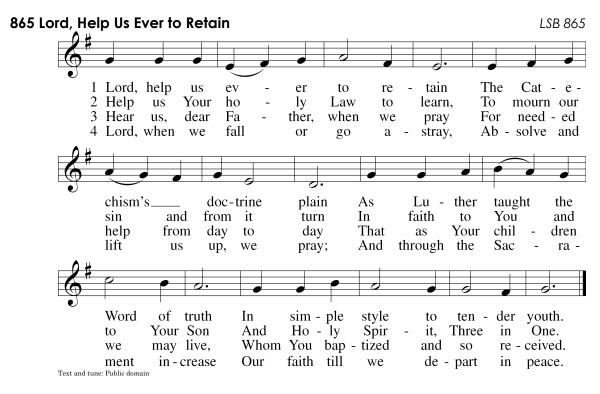
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,

and I look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

## **Children's Message**

Children are invited to join Amanda Adams, our Director of Christian Education, at the front of the sanctuary for the Children's Message.



## Sermon

## Offering

If you brought your gift, tithe, or offering with you today, you may place it in the offering plate as it passes. We also have multiple options for electronic giving. You can sign up for online giving at pushpay.com/pay/christlcms for a one-time or recurring gift. Direct links with more information are available on the church website (christlcms.org/giving).

For those joining us remotely, you may use the electronic giving methods listed above, or you may mail your offering to the church office (3509 SW Burlingame Rd, Topeka, KS 66611).



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 160

**P** The Lord be with you.

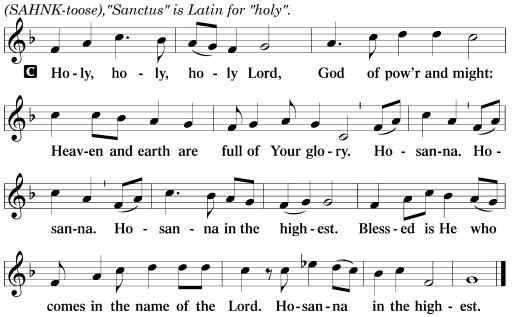


## G It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

## Proper Preface (Full)

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:





## Prayer of Thanksgiving

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■ 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

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

 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."

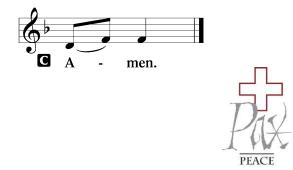
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Pax Domini

John 20:19 163

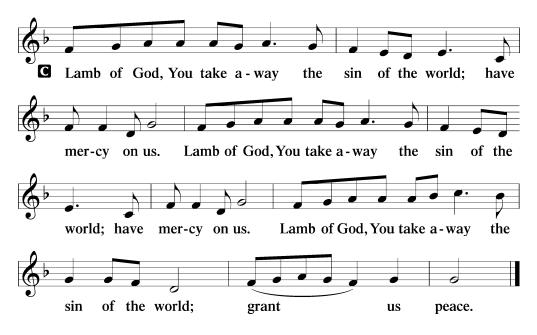
(PAKS DOH-mee-nee), Latin for "peace of the Lord" (John 20:19).

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



## Agnus Dei

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

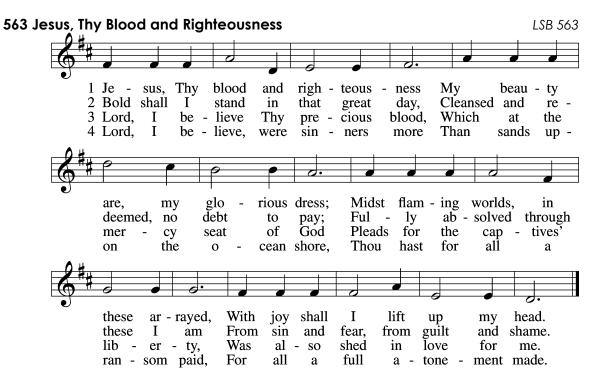


Sit

## 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 altar rail due to physical ailments. Following that the ushers will dismiss the people from their pews to go to the altar rail. The congregation will be ushered down the middle aisle to go up to the rail and when dismissed from there will use the side aisle to return to their seats. All are invited up to receive a blessing.





- 5 When from the dust of death I rise To claim my mansion in the skies, This then shall be my only plea: Jesus hath lived and died for me.
- 6 Jesus, be endless praise to Thee, Whose boundless mercy hath for me, For me, and all Thy hands have made, An everlasting ransom paid.

Text and tune: Public domain



596 All Christians Who Have Been Baptized LSB 596 1 All Chris-tians who have been bap-tized, Who know God of the 2 You were be - fore your of birth, In - deed, from day vour con that was washed a - way- Im - mersed and drowned for -3 But all of 4 In on Christ— Our shame is Bap - tism we now put ful - lv whose dai - ly life is prized The name of heav - en. And in with all the earth, None good, with -Con-demned and lost cep - tion. your Bap-tism day Re - stored a -The of ev er. wa ter He once sac - ri - ficed And free - ly With all that cov - ered Christ once giv - en: Con - sid - er now what God has done, The like your par - ents' flesh and blood, ex - cep - tion. For Turned out Ad - am and what-ev - er de-stroved And gain Old his sin suf - fered. For here the flood His own blood Now for us of Bap-tized in - to Christ Je - sus! gifts He gives to ev - 'ry - one

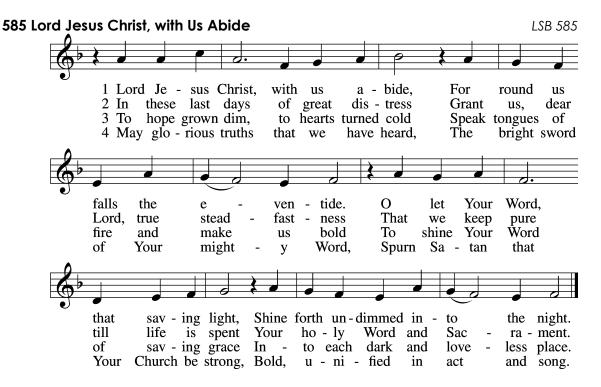
in - ward from the high - est good, You con-stant - ly de - nied Him. all our sin - ful selves em-ployed Ac - cord-ing to our na - ture. makes us ho - ly, right, and good Be - fore our heav'n-ly Fa - ther.

- 5 O Christian, firmly hold this gift And give God thanks forever!
  - It gives the power to uplift
  - In all that you endeavor.
  - When nothing else revives your soul,
  - Your Baptism stands and makes you whole And then in death completes you.
- 6 So use it well! You are made new— In Christ a new creation!
  - As faithful Christians, live and do Within your own vocation,
  - Until that day when you possess
  - His glorious robe of righteousness

#### Bestowed on you forever!

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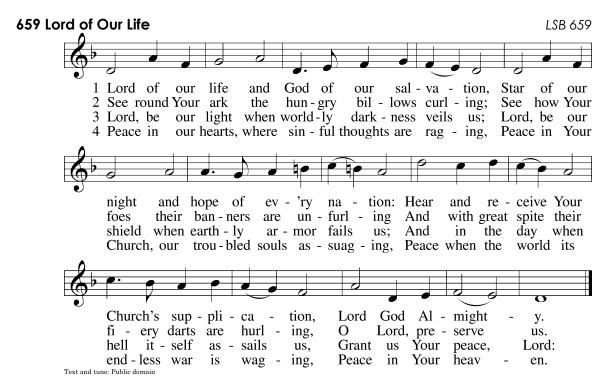




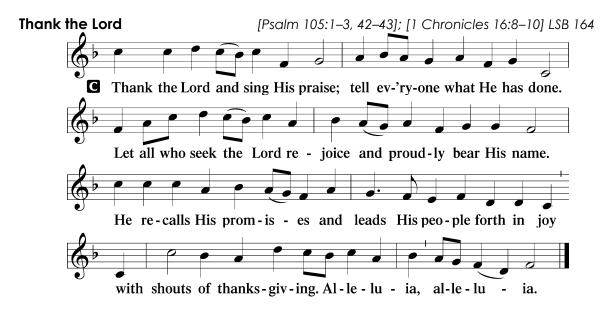
- 5 Restrain, O Lord, the human pride That seeks to thrust Your truth aside Or with some man-made thoughts or things Would dim the words Your Spirit sings.
- 6 Stay with us, Lord, and keep us true; Preserve our faith our whole life through— Your Word alone our heart's defense, The Church's glorious confidence.

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Stand



## 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.



## Luther's Morning Prayer

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 6:24-26 166

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.



Sit





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# -- Week at a Glance --

Sunday August 22nd	9:15 am 2:00 pm 3:00 pm 4:15 pm 5:00 pm	Worship Service w/ Communion Sunday School (Children & Adults) TLS New Teacher Installation at St. John's Jr. Youth (4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> grades) Middle School Youth (6 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> grades) High School Youth (9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grades) College/Young Adult Group
Monday August 23rd		
Tuesday August 24th	9:00 am	LWML Work Day
Wednesday August 25th	5:30 pm	Confirmation WWF – potluck & game night Pastor's Bible Class
Thursday August 26th	6:00 pm	Stewardship Committee Meeting
Friday August 27th		
Saturday August 28th	10:00 am	Men's Bible Study (via Zoom)
Sunday August 29th	9:15 am	Worship Service w/ Communion Sunday School (Children & Adults) Movie Day – Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs

## <u>Celebrating</u>

**Birthdays:** Jalen F., Cailin J. (23<sup>rd</sup>); Paige C., Galen H. (24<sup>th</sup>); Morgan C. (25<sup>th</sup>); LaJean R., Lincoln S. (26<sup>th</sup>); Robyn F. (27<sup>th</sup>)

**Baptism Birthdays:** Frank S. (22<sup>nd</sup>); Emil B., Natasha M., Helen M. (23<sup>rd</sup>); Chase F. (25<sup>th</sup>); Baylee A., Ellie A., Jay W. (27<sup>th</sup>)

Anniversaries: Yancy & Jennifer A. (25th); DelRay & Kadie C. (26th)

## -- Announcements --

## Adult Sunday School Hour (9:15 am)

Journey through Psalms with Pastor Ben – Schemm Family Life Center (Gym) God's Word for Today: Acts – Basement A Walk Through the Bible (Women's Group) – Pastor's Office

## Children/Youth Sunday School Hour (9:15 am)

Children (Pre-K through  $6^{th}$  grade) – Upstairs Education Wing Youth ( $7^{th}$ - $12^{th}$  grades) – Basement Youth Room

## Pastor's Midweek Bible Study

The Book of Judges – Wednesdays at 7 PM – Basement and Zoom Beginning in September, we will move to Thursdays at 7 PM to allow for choir practice on Wednesdays. At that time, we will also start a new study on the Epistles.

## Mask Information

Face masks are still optional throughout the church building. Disposable masks are available at all church entrances for those who would like one. Children's size masks are located by the main entrance. For more information regarding masking, please visit <u>www.cdc.gov</u>.

## Praise Service

We would love to resume the contemporary worship service that we used to offer once a month... but we need musicians! If you are interested in playing an instrument and/or singing for this worship service, please contact one of the elders or the church office.

## September Volunteer Opportunities

The Evangelism Committee wanted to do something to support local teachers during the month of September. So we have two dates where you can help at TLS! On Saturday, Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> from 9 AM to noon we will be helping out with a clean-up/work day at Topeka Lutheran School. And on the afternoon of Saturday, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>, we will help set up for the school carnival that afternoon. For more information, please contact Nancy Crago or the church office.

## LWML Collection for Harvesters

September is "Hunger Action Month." LWML will be collecting non-perishable food items for Harvesters throughout that month. Donations can be dropped off in the coffee lobby on Sundays or brought to the church office during the week. Thank you for your generosity and for helping our neighbors in need.

## -- Announcements --

## Choir Practice

Make a joyful noise – church choir is back! We will begin Wednesday evening rehearsals on September 1<sup>st</sup> at 7 PM. (Pastor's Bible Study will be moving to Thursdays.) Join us!

## Rally Sunday Thank You's

Thank you to everyone who attended our Rally Sunday breakfast! Our youth received over \$700 in donations toward their 2022 National Youth Gathering trip. We are blessed to have such a generous and supportive church family!

## Youth - TODAY

Christ Youth are invited to meet here at church TODAY (August  $22^{nd}$ ) for fun and fellowship! We're splitting up our youth groups a little differently this year. Jr. Youth ( $4^{th}-5^{th}$  gr.) will meet from 3:00-4:00 pm, Middle School Youth ( $6^{th}-8^{th}$  gr.) will meet from 4:15-6:00 pm, and High School Youth ( $9^{th}-12^{th}$  gr.) will meet from 5:00-6:45 pm. Yes, the Middle School and High School times overlap – we will have a shared activity during that time, but it also allows us to have more age-specific Bible studies before/after. Friends always welcome!

## College/Young Adult Ministry – TONIGHT

We are starting a college-age ministry here at Christ for young adults 18 to 25 years old. Our first meeting will be Sunday, Aug.  $22^{nd}$  at 7:00 p.m. here at Christ. We'll have food for you and will be talking about how this group can best get started. We'll be looking for ideas for future meetings and activities. Questions? Contact Amanda or Pastor.

## Movie Day

Next Sunday, August 29<sup>th</sup>, all members and families are invited to join us at 2 PM for movie day in the gym! We will be watching Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs. Snacks will be provided.

## **TLS Teacher Installation – TODAY**

The installation service for our new Topeka Lutheran School teachers, Kathy Bartels and Brenda Schwartz, will be this afternoon at 2 PM at St. John's (901 SW Fillmore St). Let's welcome these two educators to the TLS family!

## **TLS Spirit Wear**

The online spirit wear store for Topeka Lutheran School is now open! Choose from multiple designs and colors, available in t-shirts, sweatshirts, polos, and more. Order deadline is August 30<sup>th</sup>. <u>https://goblue.tuosystems.com/stores/topekalutheran</u>

## -- Announcements --

## Church Directory

If you would like to use our backdrop to take an updated directory photo for your household, stop by the Schemm Family Life Center before/between/after worship. Snag a friend or fellow member to take a photo with your phone. Please submit your photo to the church office (office@christlcms.org) – thank you!

If you have not yet updated your contact info for our upcoming church directory, please visit <u>www.christlcms.org/directory-update</u> or pick up one of the blue forms at the back of the sanctuary.

## Remembered in our Prayers

Charlie P., Alice M., Luke H., Julie J., Don L., Brittian K.(Sondra K.'s grandson), Lance L., Jerry M., Jean B. (sister Pauline C.'s sister), Judy (Colleen B.'s neighbor), Noel (Colleen B.'s brother), Kathy (Brenda Z.'s sister-in-law), Shirley (Frank J.'s grandmother), Melanie (Sharon L.'s daughter), Ella (Marsha S.'s granddaughter), Denise (Linda O.'s friend), Kent B., Jeanette W., Lisa (Judy K.'s sister), Randy (Carol J.'s son), Jeanette B., Kendra M., Madison L., Steve (Rachel M.'s father), Vikki N., Matt N., Lynn M., Virginia C., Rene A. for a speedy adoption process for Barbara, 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, DCE 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 Topeka Lutheran School 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 True Tradition of the Church Is the Ministry of the Gospel of Christ Jesus, Her Savior

The true tradition of the Church is the Gospel, which is the preaching and administration of Christ Jesus. Other traditions, although not commanded by God, may serve and support that sacred tradition of the Gospel. But the Church dare not "[reject] the commandment of God" in order to establish or hold to "the tradition of men" (Mark 7:8–9). Sinful people attempt to draw near to the Lord "with their mouth" and to honor Him "with their lips," while their hearts are far removed from Him (Is. 29:13). Yet, He is "the Holy One of Israel," who brings about salvation by His cross. Therefore, "the wisdom of their wise men shall perish," but "the deaf shall hear" and "the eyes of the blind shall see" (Is. 29:14–19). This mystery of Christ is profound, for He is the husband of the Church, and He is her Savior. Not because of any works that she has done, but solely for the sake of His great love, He "gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word" (Eph. 5:25–26).

### Worship Attendance – Sunday, August 15th

8:00 AM -- 84 10:30 AM -- 95

## Stewardship Corner

Budgeted Weekly Needs:	\$    7,878
Offerings Received – Week of 8/15	\$  12,785
Debt Retirement Gifts Received – Week of 8/15	\$ 4,131
Budgeted Needs (Jan - July 2021)	\$238,994
Offerings Received (Jan - July 2021)	\$231,108

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Mark 7:11 – "But you say, 'If a man tells his father or his mother, "Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban" '(that is, given to God)." Each one of our vocations, in the home, in the church, and in society have a claim on our resources. The Pharisees thought that they could use the Kingdom of God as an excuse to shirk their duty to their parents. But they were wrong. Of course, doing it the other way around would also be wrong. God has called us to be supportive of our families, our churches, and our communities each in the proper proportion.