For God shows no partiality.

Romans 2:11

ROMANS: The Theology of the Gospel

Third Sunday after Pentecost June 18, 2023 8:00 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



<u>As We Gather</u>

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).

Holy Communion

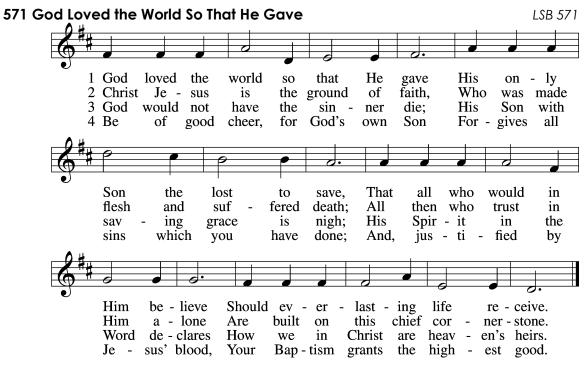
The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder.

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.



Welcome and Opening Prayer



5 If you are sick, if death is near, This truth your troubled heart can cheer: Christ Jesus saves your soul from death; That is the firmest ground of faith. $\triangle 6$ Glory to God the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One! To You, O blessèd Trinity, Be praise now and eternally!

Text: Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens-Opffer, c. 1778, Stettin; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt. Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93 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

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

Exhortation

1 John 1:8–9 151

Matthew 28:19b: 18:20

- **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

- $\ensuremath{\mathbb{P}}$ Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- 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.

LSB 151

Service of the Word

Introit

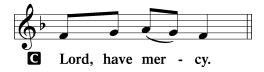
Psalm 67:4-7; antiphon: v. 3

- **P** Let the peoples praise you, O God;
- **C** let all the peoples praise you!
- $\ensuremath{\mathbb{P}}$ Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
- **C** for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.
- **P** Let the peoples praise you, O God;
- **C** let all the peoples praise you!
- **P** The earth has yielded its increase;
- **G** God, our God, shall bless us.
- **P** God shall bless us;
- C let all the ends of the earth fear him! 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** Let the peoples praise you, O God;
- **C** let all the peoples praise you!



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.



A 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, eternal God, in the Word of Your apostles and prophets You have proclaimed to us Your saving will. Grant us faith to believe Your promises that we may receive eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 19:2–8

A The Old Testament Reading is from Exodus, chapter 19.

²[The people of Israel] set out from Rephidim and came into the wilderness of Sinai, and they encamped in the wilderness. There Israel encamped before the mountain, ³while Moses went up to God. The LORD called to him out of the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the people of Israel: ⁴You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. ⁵Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; ⁶and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel."

⁷So Moses came and called the elders of the people and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. ⁸All the people answered together and said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do." And Moses reported the words of the people to the LORD.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 2:1-11

A The Epistle is from Romans, chapter 2.

¹Therefore you have no excuse, O man, every one of you who judges. For in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, practice the very same things. ²We know that the judgment of God rightly falls on those who do such things. ³Do you suppose, O man—you who judge those who do such things and yet do them yourself—that you will escape the judgment of God? ⁴Or do you presume on the riches of his kindness and forbearance and patience, not knowing that God's kindness is meant to lead you to repentance? ⁵But because of your hard and impenitent heart you are storing up wrath for yourself on the day of wrath when God's righteous judgment will be revealed.

⁶He will render to each one according to his works: ⁷to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life; ⁸but for those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, there will be wrath and fury. ⁹There will be tribulation and distress for every human being who does evil, the Jew first and also the Greek, ¹⁰but glory and honor and peace for everyone who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. ¹¹For God shows no partiality.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand



Alleluia and Verse



Holy Gospel

Matthew 9:35-10:20

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



³⁵Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. ³⁶When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

¹And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction. ²The names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; ³Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

⁵These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, "Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, ⁶but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷And proclaim as you go, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' ⁸Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying; give without pay. ⁹Acquire no gold nor silver nor copper for your belts, ¹⁰no bag for your journey, nor two tunics nor sandals nor a staff, for the laborer deserves his food. ¹¹And whatever town or village you enter, find out who is worthy in it and stay there until you depart. ¹²As you enter the house, greet it. ¹³And if the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not

worthy, let your peace return to you. ¹⁴And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town. ¹⁵Truly, I say to you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town.

¹⁶"Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. ¹⁷Beware of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues, ¹⁸and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them and the Gentiles. ¹⁹When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. ²⁰For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you."

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.

| C] | [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,

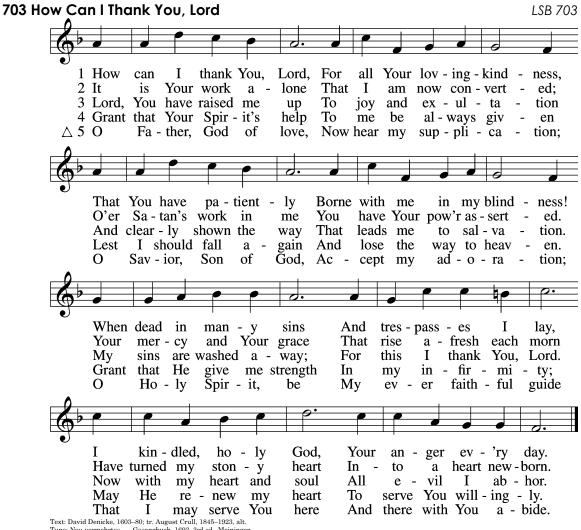
and I look for the resurrection of the dead

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

Children's Message

Matthew 19:14; Mark 13:13-15; Luke 18:16

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



Tune: Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, 1693, 3rd ed., Meiningen Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

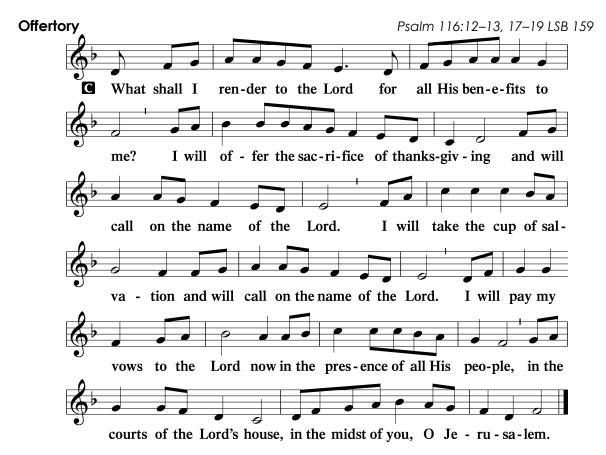
Offering

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 through Vanco at **bit.ly/GivingChristLCMS** for a one-time or recurring gift. You may also download the Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement app and search for Christ Lutheran Church in Topeka, KS. Direct links and additional 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."**

■ ...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.



P Lift up your hearts.

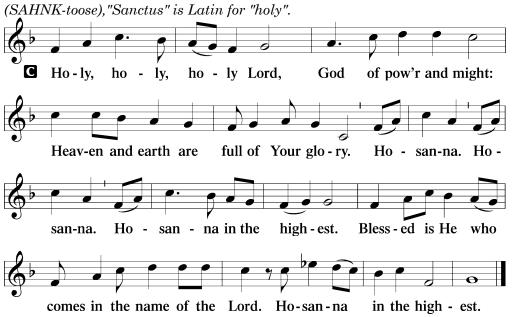


P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



Proper Preface (Full)

 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 on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting 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

161

■ 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

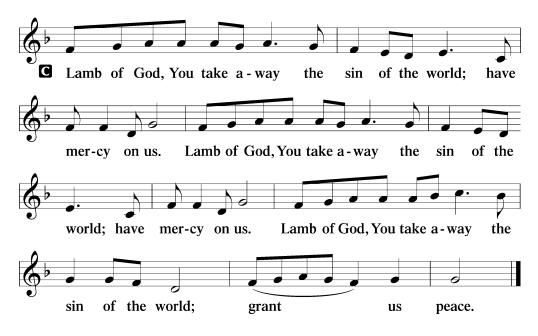
(PAKS DOH-mee-nee), Latin for "peace of the Lord" (John 20:19).

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



Agnus Dei

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



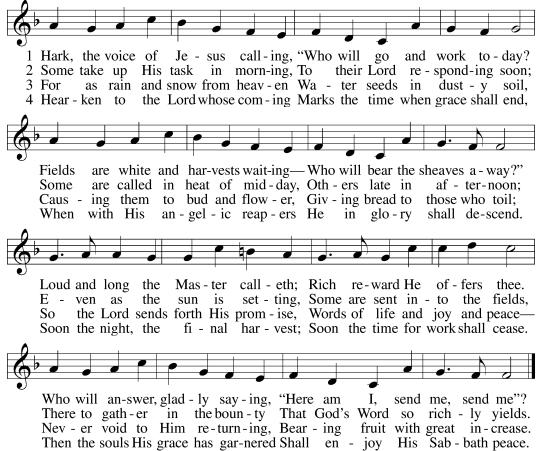
Sit

Distribution

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.



827 Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling



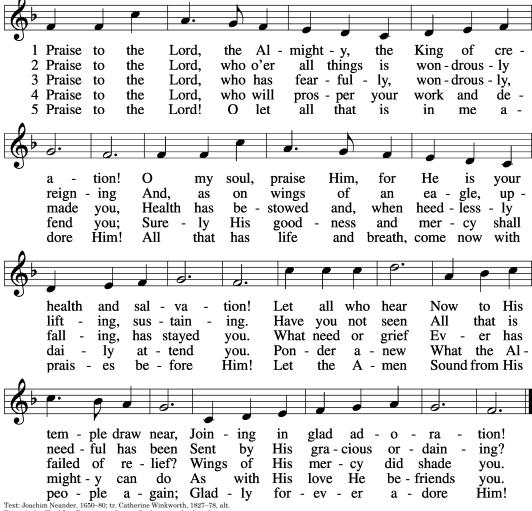
LSB 827

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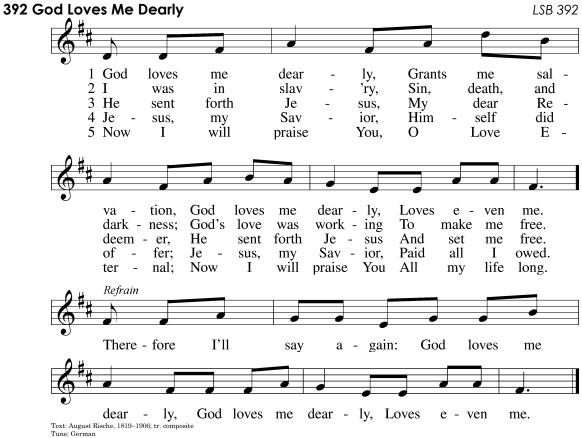
790 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



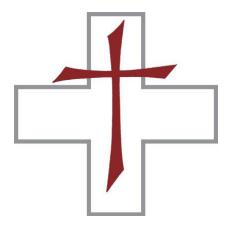
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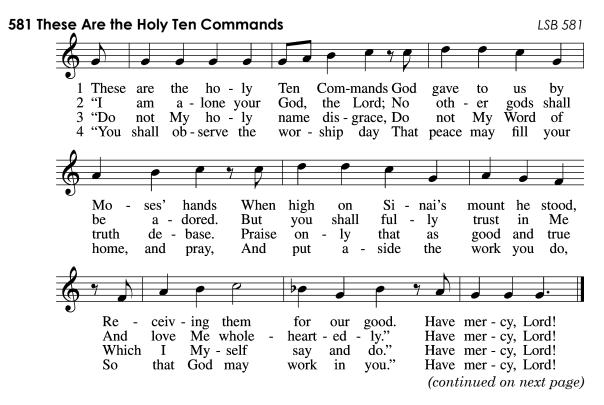
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Text and tune: Public domain





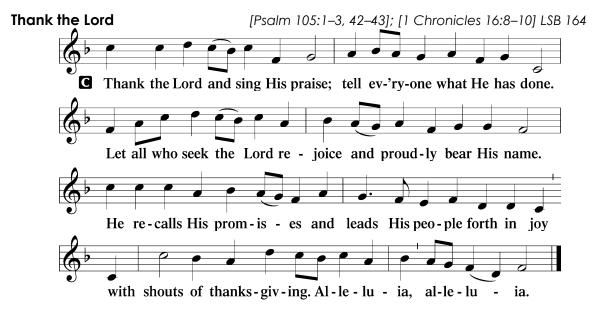
Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (st. 1): tr. Joseph Herl, 1959; (st. 2): tr. Michael A. Penikis, 1964; (sts. 3–5, 7, 11): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001, alt.; (sts. 6, 8–10, 12): tr. Christian Worship, 1993, alt.; Tune: German, 13th cent.

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- 5 "You are to honor and obey Your father, mother, ev'ry day, Serve them each way that comes to hand; You'll then live long in the land." Have mercy, Lord!
- 6 "You shall not murder, hurt, nor hate; Your anger dare not dominate. Be kind and patient; help, defend, And treat your foe as your friend." Have mercy, Lord!
- 7 "Be faithful to your marriage vow; No lust or impure thoughts allow.
 Keep all your conduct free from sin By self-controlled discipline." Have mercy, Lord!
- 8 "You shall not steal or take away What others worked for night and day, But open wide a gen'rous hand And help the poor in the land." Have mercy, Lord!

- 9 "Bear no false witness nor defame Your neighbor nor destroy his name, But view him in the kindest way; Speak truth in all that you say." Have mercy, Lord!
- "You shall not crave your neighbor's house Nor covet money, goods, or spouse.
 Pray God He would your neighbor bless As you yourself wish success." Have mercy, Lord!
- 11 You have this Law to see therein That you have not been free from sin But also that you clearly see How pure toward God life should be. Have mercy, Lord!
- 12 Our works cannot salvation gain; They merit only endless pain. Forgive us, Lord! To Christ we flee, Who pleads for us endlessly. Have mercy, Lord!

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.

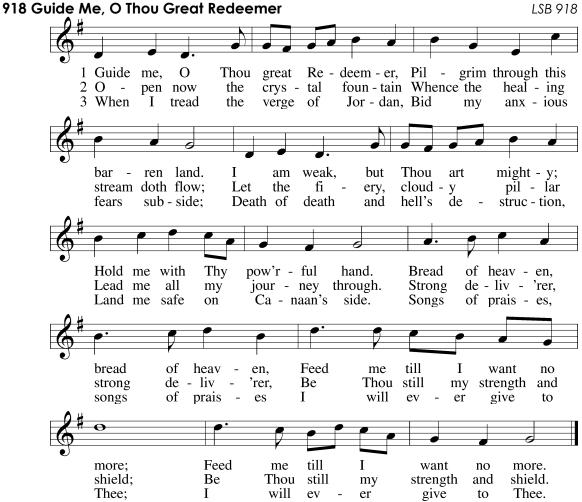
P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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 June 18 | | Worship Service w/ Communion Sunday School (children & adults) |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Monday June 19 | | |
| Tuesday June 20 | | |
| Wednesday June 21 | 5:30 pm | Women's Morning Bible Study June Fellowship Night (Potluck, Games, Paint) Pastor's Bible Study |
| Thursday June 22 | 2:00 pm | Chair Aerobics |
| Friday June 23 | | |
| Saturday June 24 | 10:00 am | Men's Bible Study (Zoom) |
| Sunday June 25 | 9:15 am 4:00 pm 5:15 pm | Worship Service w/ Communion Sunday School (children & adults) Jr. Youth (4 th -6 th grades) Youth Group (7 th -12 th grades) Young Adult Group (ages 18-25) |

<u>Celebrating</u>

Birthdays: Glenna L. (19th); Hannah A., Harley B. (20th); Vikki N., Eric T. (21st); Mathew H., Marsha S. (24th)

Baptism Birthdays: Leola P. (18th); Katlyn B. (19th); Miguel S. (21st); Rana C. (23rd); Abel W. (24th)

Anniversaries: Dennis & Glenna L. (22nd); Aaron & Heather B. (24th)

-- Announcements --

Adult Sunday School Hour (9:15 am)

Romans (with Pastor Ben) – Schemm Family Life Center (Gym) God's Word for Today: 1, 2, & 3 John (Small Group) – Basement Meeting Room A Walk Through the Bible (Women's Group) – Meeting Room near Gym

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

Children (Pre-K through 6^{th} grade) – Upstairs Education Wing Youth (7^{th} -1 2^{th} grades) – Basement Youth Room

Women's Morning Bible Study

Leaning on Jesus – Wednesdays at 10 AM – Coffee Lobby (Kids can play in gym.)

Pastor's Midweek Bible Study

Luke – Wednesdays at 7 PM – Basement

June Fellowship Night – Potluck, Games, and Paint

WWF is on a break for the summer, but the food and fun will continue! Join us on Wednesday, June 21st for a potluck dinner at 5:30 PM, followed by your choice of games or an acrylic pour paint project (or both)! If you would like to participate in the painting craft, please sign up on the bulletin board in the coffee lobby or contact the church office – we need an approximate head count for supplies. All ages are welcome!

Dillons Community Rewards

Christ is now enrolled in the Dillons Community Rewards program! To participate, you must sign into your digital account for your Dillons card. You can search for our organization by name (Christ Lutheran Church LCMS) or enter our non-profit organization (NPO) number – LD157. Select our name from the list and hit "save." Once you have designated Christ as your organization of choice, we will receive a small donation from Kroger each time you scan your Dillons card. We have included a link on our website's homepage (christlcms.org) for your convenience.

VBS Thank You

Thank you, thank you, THANK YOU to everyone who volunteered, donated supplies, brought their kids/grandkids, or in any way were involved with VBS. We had such a fun week, and enjoyed spending time everyday teaching those children about God's Word!

-- Announcements --

Summer Sunday School – Helpers Wanted

Do you have a Sunday or two when you would be willing to share an hour of your time this summer? We could use a few helpers for Summer Sunday School! DCE Amanda will have all the materials prepped and lead the group – we just need a few extra people to help out with crafts, snacks, and such. If interested, please contact the church office.

Bible Reading Challenge

We're officially halfway through our challenge! If you are up to date on your reading calendar, please bring the 2nd quarter slip from the back page to church with you to pick up your prize! We have several varieties of sweets available in the coffee lobby for you. Please take one full size candy bar or a couple of the smaller sugar-free chocolates.

TLS Memorabilia Pick Up.

TLS alumni, former students, and church members are invited to stop by Topeka Lutheran School on Saturday, July 8th, 8:00am to noon, to select and pick up any TLS memorabilia such as trophies, library books, frisbees (Growing God's Children), t-shirts (Grow Our School), etc. Please contact your Pastor or church office if you have gifted a large item to the school that you would like to be given to your church, so that arrangements can be made to transport from TLS to the church. Items will be placed in the TLS gym; pick up will be in person, first come, first serve, no holds.

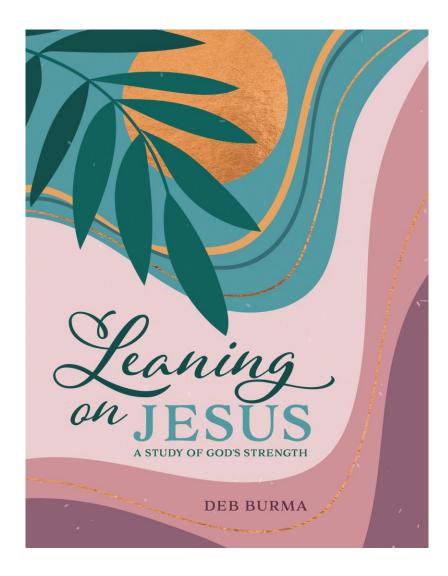
Remembered in our Prayers

Charlie P., Luke H., Don L., Jerry M., Jean (Pauline C.'s sister), Judy (Colleen B.'s neighbor), Noel (Colleen B.'s brother), Melanie (Sharon L.'s daughter), Vikki N., Matt N., Virginia C., Evelyn (mother of Sandy S.), Ted M., Garry N., Mark (Carol J.'s friend), Wayne B., David (Sondra K.'s son), Kim (friend of the Micheels), Dick H., Penny (Marty K.'s coworker's wife), Betty H., Dorothy (Wayne K.'s sister-in-law), Nick (Hannah M.'s cousin), Sharon H., Lila N., Darleen C., Brandon B., Dennis L., Bob H., Marsha S., James (father-in-law of Norlinda C.), and others named in your heart. Pray for the Topeka Rescue Mission, Chelsea Irwin 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 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.





Women's Morning Bible Study Wednesdays at 10 AM (Moms – your kids can play in the gym!)



Join us at Christ Lutheran Church (3509 SW Burlingame Road) for a

NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTY FRIDAY, JULY 14 5 PM - 7 PM

Free burgers and hot dogs! Yard games and bounce house on site!

In the event of rain/inclement weather, we will use the church gym. Christ Lutheran is a smoke-free and alcohol-free campus.



Christ Lutheran Church

The Forgiveness Place

For more information, please visit us online at www.christicms.org or contact the church office at (785) 266-6263.

The Lord Our God Saves Us in Love and Cares for Us by the Ministry of His Gospel

The holy Triune God "shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners," ungodly and at enmity with Him, "Christ died for us" (Rom. 5:8). The incarnate Son has justified us by His blood and reconciled us to His God and Father (Rom. 5:9–10). Whereas sin and death originated with Adam, forgiveness and life abound for all his children through "that one man Jesus Christ" (Rom. 5:12–17). As the Lord brought Israel out of Egypt, so does He bring us to Himself by the Gospel and make of us "a kingdom of priests and a holy nation" (Ex. 19:6) by our Baptism into Christ. For "all that the LORD has spoken" (Ex. 19:8), Christ has done for us. As He has gone up to God by His cross and resurrection, so does He bring us to the Father in Himself (Ex. 19:3–4). Nor does He leave us "harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd" (Matt. 9:36), but He sends men with authority "to heal every disease and every affliction" by His forgiveness of sins (Matt. 10:1). In their proclamation, "the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matt. 10:7).

Worship Attendance – Sunday, June 11th

 $\begin{array}{c} 8:00 \ AM-65 \\ 10:30 \ AM-91 \end{array}$

Stewardship Corner

| Budgeted Weekly Needs: | \$ 8,945 |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Offerings Received – Week of 6/11 | \$ 9,378 |
| Budgeted Needs (Jan-May 2023) | \$ 196,790 |
| Offerings Received (Jan-May 2023) | \$ 180,109 |
| **** | |

Romans 5:8 – "But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." God did not wait for mankind to make the first move. He did not wait for Adam and Even to come looking for Him — He went and found them. And while we were still sinners, still enemies of God, still set against Him, God looked on us with kindness and generosity, and so loved us that He sent His Son Jesus to suffer, die and rise for us. We now seek to grow up into His image as loving, generous and kind sons and daughters of our Heavenly Father.