For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

Romans 8:2

ROMANS: The Theology of the Gospel

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost August 20, 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

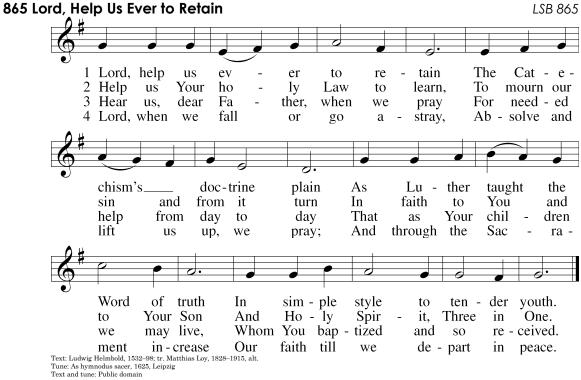
The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our 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



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

- **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.

LSB 151

Service of the Word

Introit

- **P** The LORD is the strength of his people;
- **C** he is the saving refuge of his anointed.
- ▶ To you, O LORD, I call; my rock, be not deaf to me,
- **C** lest, if you be silent to me, I become like those who go down to the pit.
- P Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy, when I cry to you for help,
- **C** when I lift up my hands toward your most holy sanctuary.
- **P** Blessèd be the LORD!
- **G** For he has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.
- The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped;
- **C** my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to 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** The LORD is the strength of his people;
- **C** he is the saving refuge of his anointed.



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



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 everlasting Father, You give Your children many blessings even though we are undeserving. In every trial and temptation grant us steadfast confidence in Your loving-kindness and mercy; 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 56.

Isaiah 56:1, 6–8

¹Thus says the LORD:
"Keep justice, and do righteousness, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed....
⁶"And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants,
everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it, and holds fast my covenant—
⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices

will be accepted on my altar;
for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples."
⁸The Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares,
"I will gather yet others to him besides those already gathered."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 7:1-8:2

A The Epistle is from Romans, chapters 7 and 8.

¹Or do you not know, brothers—for I am speaking to those who know the law that the law is binding on a person only as long as he lives? ²Thus a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage. ³Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress.

⁴Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God. ⁵For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death. ⁶But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve not under the old written code but in the new life of the Spirit.

⁷What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, "You shall not covet." ⁸But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. Apart from the law, sin lies dead. ⁹I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin came alive and I died. ¹⁰The very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me. ¹¹For sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. ¹²So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.

¹³Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure. ¹⁴For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. ¹⁵I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. ¹⁷So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

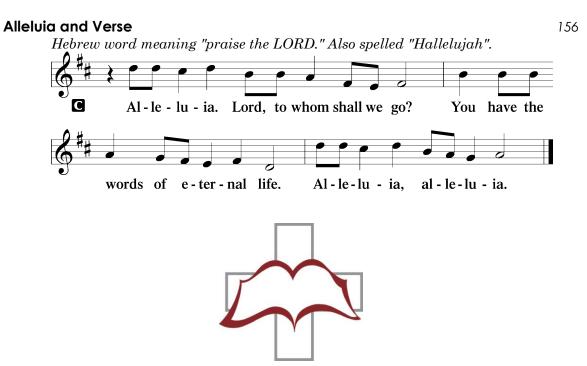
²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, ²³but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin.

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand



Holy Gospel

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



²¹Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon." ²³But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, "Send her away, for she is crying out after us." ²⁴He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶And he answered, "It is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.

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,
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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: John Hughes, 1873–1932 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."**

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.



P Lift up your hearts.

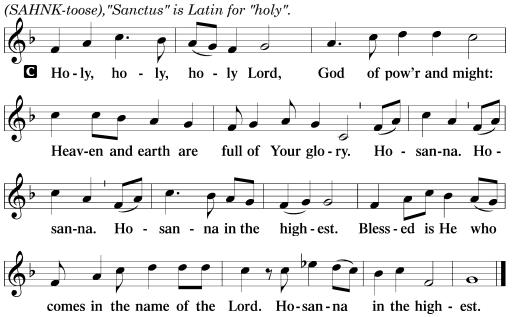


P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



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, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. 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."

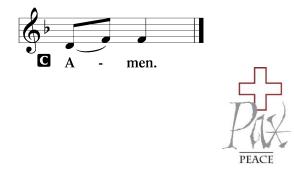
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

John 20:19 163

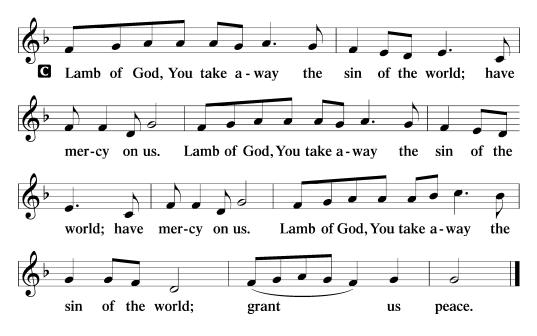
(PAKS DOH-mee-nee), Latin for "peace of the Lord" (John 20:19).

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



Agnus Dei

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



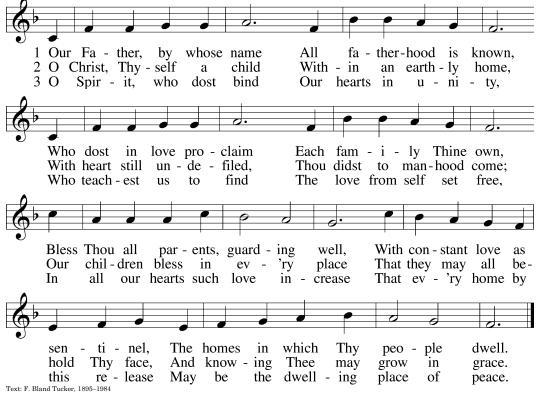
Sit

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.



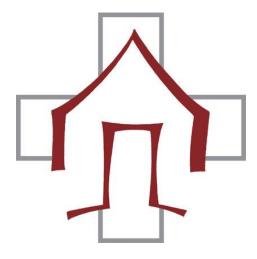
863 Our Father, by Whose Name



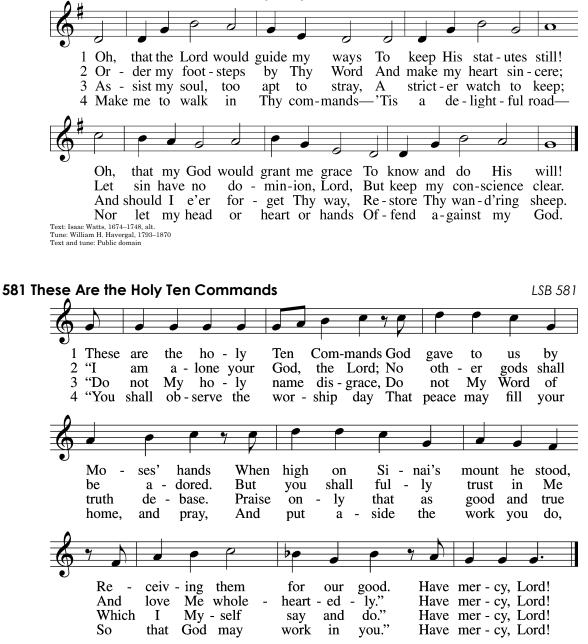
LSB 863

Tune: John D. Edwards, 1805–1904

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707 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways



(continued on next page)

- 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!

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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332 Savior of the Nations. Come LSB 332 Sav ior of the Vir gin's 1 na tions, come, Son. make 2 Not by h11 flesh blood. By Spir man and the it 3 Here maid found with child, Yet was re - mained а а 4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and Your home! Mar heav'n here vel now. 0 and earth, of God. Was the Word of God made fleshour vir mild. In her womb this truth shown: gin was king lv hall: God of God. vet ful ly man. That. the Lord chose such birth. а Wom off fresh. an's spring, pure and _ God His throne. was there up on His he iĉ course be ro gan.

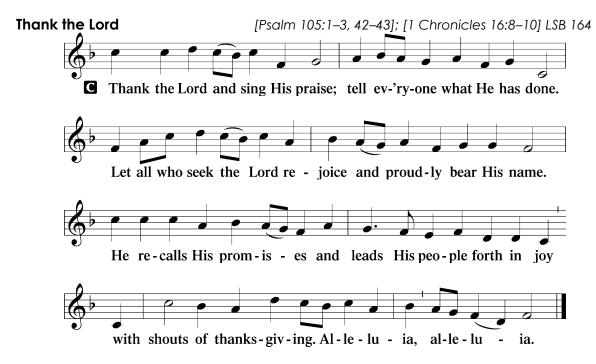
- 5 God the Father was His source, Back to God He ran His course. Into hell His road went down, Back then to His throne and crown.
- 6 For You are the Father's Son Who in flesh the vict'ry won.By Your mighty pow'r make whole All our ills of flesh and soul.
- From the manger newborn light Shines in glory through the night. Darkness there no more resides; In this light faith now abides.

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2): tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76; (sts. 3, 6): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 4–5, 8): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (st. 7): tr. Gifford A. Grobien, 1973 Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524. Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter

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Stand



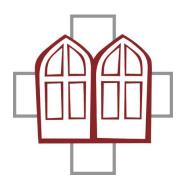


Post-Communion Collect

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

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 6:24-26 166

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



589 Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens LSB 589 Your Word 1 Speak, O Lord, Your lis - tens, Let ser - vant to 2 Oh, what bless - ing near You to be And to lis - ten 3 Lord, Your words liv - ing When my thirst - ing are wa - ters 4 As Your words in pray, dear Je - sus. Let Ι hear me: New - born life and me come near; spir it give me. Your voice; Let me ev love hear You, to er and spir - it pleads. Lord, Your words are bread life - giv - ing; May Your Spir - it me take root. e'er be near me Let each prom-ise still my fear. Death's dread pow'r, its in - ward Let Your Word be now my choice! Man - y hard-ened sin-ners. On Your words my spir - it feeds. Your words will be my Lord, dai - ly sing Your That I bear a - bun - dant fruit. Mav I Wars Your Word of strife. a - gainst life: Fill me. Lord, with Lord, Flee Your Word: But to all who in ter ror at Through death's cold drea - ry light and night; Yes, they are my praise, From an - thems raise, Till my high - est my heart glad love's strong fer - vor That I cling You for - ev - er! to You give words of feel sin's bur - den peace and par - don. un - fail-ing! vail - ing And my sword pre cup of joy the end - less of giv - en heav - en. praise is In joy Text: Anna Sophia von Hessen-Darmstadt, 1638-83; (sts. 1-3): tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860-1942, alt.; (st. 4): tr. Christian Worship, 1993 Tune: Johann Schop, c. 1590-1667

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-- Week at a Glance --

Sunday August 20		Worship Service w/ Communion Sunday School (children & adults)
Monday August 21		
Tuesday August 22	9:00 am	LWML Work Day
Wednesday August 23	5:15 pm 5:55 pm	Midweek Confirmation Midweek – Meal (Burgers & Hot Dogs) Midweek – Worship Midweek Classes
Thursday August 24	2:00 pm	Chair Aerobics
Friday August 25		
Saturday August 26	10:00 am	Men's Zoom Bible Study
Sunday August 27	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) College/Young Adult Group (ages 18-25) 3 rd Quarter Bible Reading Challenge Prizes

Celebrating

Birthdays: Kailey C. (21st); Jack G. (22nd); Paige C., Galen H. (24th); Morgan C. (25th); LaJean R., Lincoln S. (26th); Robyn F. (27th)
Baptism Birthdays: Frank S. (22nd); Natasha M. (23rd); Chase F. (25th); Baylee A., Ellie A., Jay W. (27th)
Anniversaries: Yancy & Jennifer A. (25th); DelRay & Kadie C. (26th)

-- 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) – *Resumes in September* 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} - 12^{th} grades) – Basement Youth Room

Midweek at Christ (Wednesday)

- 4:00 pm Confirmation (6th, 7th, 8th grades)
- 5:15 pm Meal (Sign up at christlcms.org if you can help us cook!)
- 5:55 pm Worship (brief service including prayer and a Bible reading)
- 6:05 pm Classes (Christian education classes for all ages)
- 7:00 pm Children's Choir (begins in September)
- 7:20 pm Adult Choir (begins in September)

Midweek at Christ

Our new Midweek program has begun – all ages are welcome and encouraged to join us! We will provide a FREE meal each week (sign up through the church website if you can help us prepare/cook the food). We'll hold a brief worship service, and then offer Bible classes for all ages – children and adults. Friends and guests are always welcome! Choir and children's choir will begin meeting in September.

Bible Reading Challenge

Are you still staying caught up on your reading calendar? 3rd Quarter prizes will be available beginning on the last Sunday of August! Those who are up to date on their Bible reading for the year will be able to pick up a coupon for a free cookie from Dialogue Coffee House (4009 SW 29th St. in Topeka). Or if you'd like a sweet treat without the sugar, we still have some sugar-free chocolates that you can take instead.

<u>Choir</u>

Choir begins in September! Join us as we lift our voices in song on Wednesday evenings – children at 7 PM, adults at 7:20 PM.

Family Movie Night

Join us in the gym for a FREE family movie night on Friday, September 15th at 6 PM. We will be watching Disney's *The Emperor's New Groove* (rated G). Popcorn will be provided! If you would like to sit on something other than folding chairs, please bring that with you.

-- Announcements --

Text Alerts – FILL OUT THE GREEN SHEET IN THE COFFEE LOBBY!

Sign up to receive text messages from Christ Lutheran Church! No, we won't spam you with messages every day. This will be used sparingly for important updates regarding worship services or events (such as when we had no electricity for the block party). It will be a fast way to convey time-sensitive information.

To sign up for text alerts, provide the church office with your name, e-mail address, and cell phone number with area code. Please e-mail this information directly to the church office (office@christlcms.org) or legibly write the information and bring it to the church office. (Please -- do NOT verbally tell Pastor, Amanda, or Mel -- we won't remember it!)

We will leave the initial sign-up period open through Sunday, August 20th. That week, all who have provided a valid e-mail address will receive an e-mail from Church360 (a Concordia owned technology company that we use for our church records management) asking for you to verify your phone number and opt-in for text messages. (Standard message/data rates apply.)

LCMS Grant Update – Ukrainian Refugees in Topeka

This is an excerpt from a chat with a family we are hoping to help relocate from Irpin, Ukraine (near Kyiv) to Topeka, Kansas. Please keep them in your prayers.

Once we get confirmation of their visas/paperwork getting approved, we will start sign-ups for volunteer opportunities and collecting various items as we prepare for their arrival in the USA.

"Hello. My name is Oleg, my wife is Alina, and my son is Oleg. We are a Ukrainian family from the city of Irpin. We have been fighting and trying to survive for more than a year. Rocket attacks from which we hide in basements catch us both day and night. We have financial difficulties as I have an unstable job working in a taxi, my wife works in a store. Our son starts school this fall. Schools are very poorly protected from rocket attacks, they do not have reliably equipped bomb shelters. Children hide on the first floor of the school when they are alarmed. All we want is to see the future. I want my family to stop hearing explosions and hiding in basements."





-- Announcements --

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., Betty H., Dorothy (Wayne K.'s sister-in-law), Nick (Hannah M.'s cousin), Sharon H., Lila N., Darleen C., Brandon B., Dennis L., Marsha S., James (father-in-law of Norlinda C.), Craig R., Craig R. II, Natalie O., Doris T., Donna B., Lee M., Julie J., Colleen B., Greg (friend of the Tolberts), Rick (Colleen B.'s son-in-law), Gladys N., and others named in your heart. Pray for 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.







Join us on Wednesdays for Midweek at Christ!

> 4:00 pm - Confirmation 5:15 pm - Meal 5:55 pm - Worship 6:05 pm - Classes 7:00 pm - Children's Choir 7:20 pm - Adult Choir

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH 3509 SW BURLINGAME RD. WWW.CHRISTLCMS.ORG

FREE! FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT FRIDAY, SEPT. 15 6:00 PM



DRIVE-THRU TRUNK OR TREAT

OCTOBER 31ST

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH 3509 SW BURLINGAME RD. (TOPEKA, KS)

The Church Lives Under the Cross of Christ and Prays in the Hope of His Mercy

By her persistent prayer that Jesus would have mercy and help her (Matt. 15:22, 24), and even in the face of His initial silence and apparent rejection (Matt. 15:23–26), the Canaanite woman boldly confessed her faith in Him (Matt. 15:27–28). Her beautiful example encourages us to cling to the words and promises of the Gospel, even in the face of the Law that accuses and condemns us. *"For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable"* (Rom. 11:29), and His Law *"has consigned all to disobedience"* for the very purpose *"that he may have mercy on all"* (Rom. 11:32). Hence, the woman's faith and hope were not disappointed, but her prayers were answered in the mercy of Christ. Not only does He grant us the crumbs from His table, but He also feeds us with *"the children's bread"* in the house of His Father (Matt. 15:26–27). He has brought us to His *"holy mountain,"* and He makes us joyful in His house, where He hears our prayers and accepts our sacrifice of praise upon the altar of His cross (Is. 56:7).

Worship Attendance – Sunday, August 13th

 $\begin{array}{c} 8:00 \ AM-55 \\ 10:30 \ AM-64 \end{array}$

Stewardship Corner

Budgeted Weekly Needs: Offerings Received – Week of 8/13	\$ \$	8,945 7,855
Budgeted Needs (Jan-Jul 2023) Offerings Received (Jan-Jul 2023)	•	277,295 248,051
Building Fund Offerings Received – Week of 8/13	\$	0

Matthew 15:27 – "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." These are the words of faith, for faith means receiving what God gives. And God has given us so much more than just the crumbs that fall from the table — He has given us life, salvation, body and soul, eyes and ears, possessions and income. That's where our stewardship starts: with faith in the God who is the greatest Giver.