

ROMANS: The Theology of the Gospel

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost August 6, 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



As We Gather

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

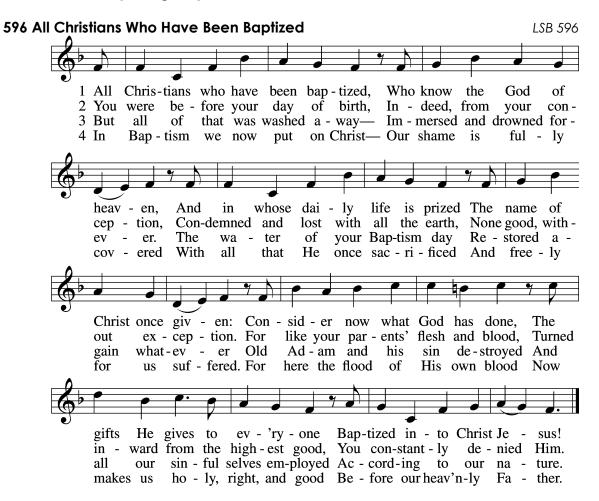
The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our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

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. Jon D. Vieker, 1961
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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.

InvocationMatthew 28:19b; 18:20

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Exhortation 1 John 1:8–9 151

- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

Confession of Sins LSB 151

- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- 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

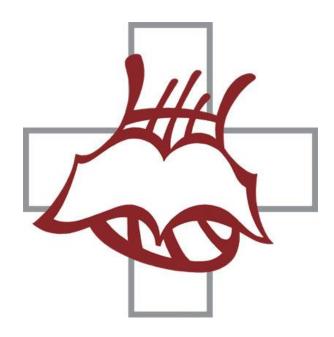
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 105:39-43; antiphon: v. 1

- P Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;
- make known his deeds among the peoples!
- P He spread a cloud for a covering,
- and fire to give light by night.
- **P** They asked, and he brought quail,
- and gave them bread from heaven in abundance.
- P He opened the rock, and water gushed out;
- it flowed through the desert like a river.
- **P** For he remembered his holy promise,
- **C** and Abraham, his servant.
- **P** So he brought his people out with joy,
- his chosen ones with singing.
 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 Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;
- make known his deeds among the peoples!



Kyrie Mark 10:47 152

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.







of

vic - to-ry for our

God.

the

feast

This is

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.

Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve Your goodness, still You provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your gifts, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; 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

Isaiah 55:1-5

A The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 55.

1"Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;
and he who has no money, come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.
2Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy?
Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.
3Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live;
and I will make with you an everlasting covenant,

my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know,
and a nation that did not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, and of the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you."

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

EpistleRomans 6:1–14

A The Epistle is from Romans, chapter 6.

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

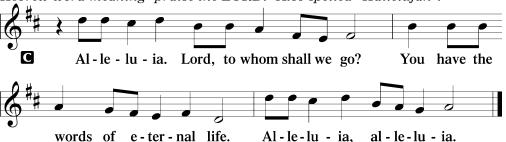
¹²Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. ¹³Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. ¹⁴For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

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

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

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



Holy Gospel Matthew 14:13–21

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



¹³Now when Jesus heard [about the death of John], he withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. ¹⁵Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶But Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷They said to him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." ¹⁸And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. ²¹And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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.

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

And in one Lord Jesus Christ. the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds. God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made: who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man: and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,

whose kingdom will have no end.

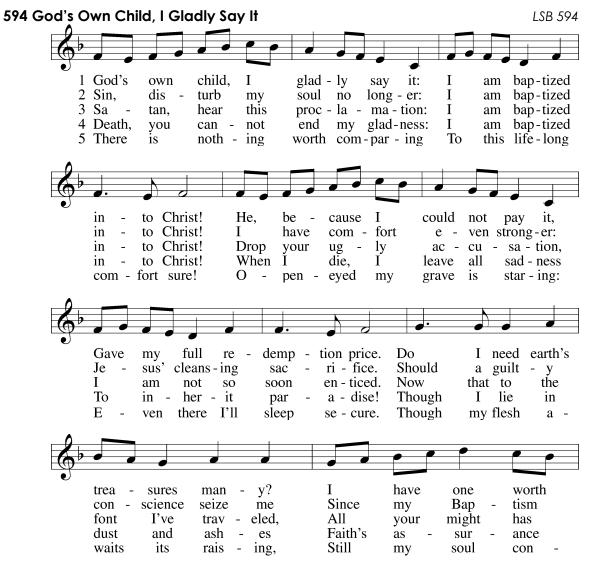
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

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

Children's Message

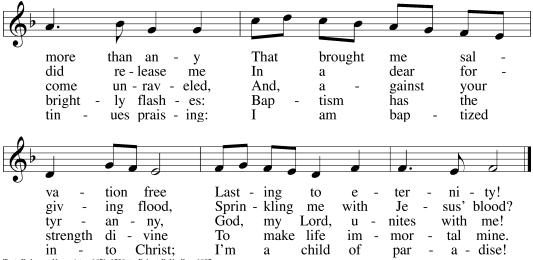
Matthew 19:14; Mark 13:13-15; Luke 18:16

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



(continued on next page)





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Tune: Johann Caspar Bachofen, 1695-1755, alt.

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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.



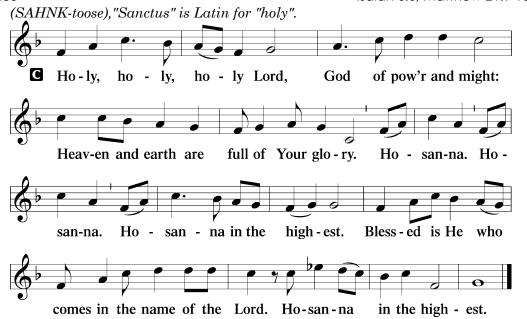
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



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

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

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

C Amen.



- P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

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

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

Pax Domini John 20:19 163

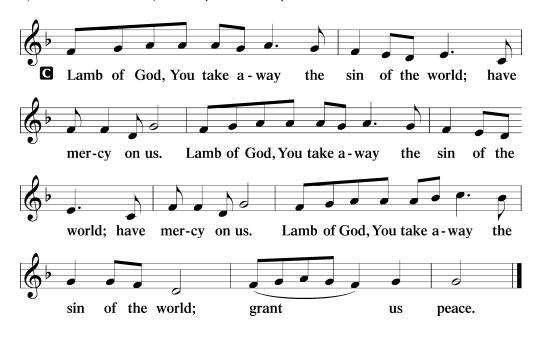
(PAKS DOH-mee-nee), Latin for "peace of the Lord" (John 20:19).

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



Agnus Dei John 1:29 LSB 163

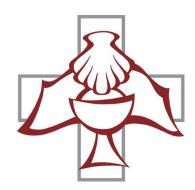
(AHG-noose DAY-ee). Latin for "Lamb of God."



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.



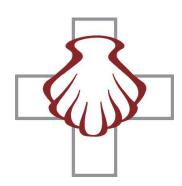


LSB 590



Tune: Cornelius Heinrich Dretzel. 1697-1775

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LSB 469



1 "Christ the Lord is ris'n to -day!" Saints on earth and an -gels say;

2 Love's re-deem-ing work is done, Fought the fight, the bat - tle won; 3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ hath burst the gates of hell.

4 Lives a - gain our glo-rious King! Where, O death, is now thy sting?

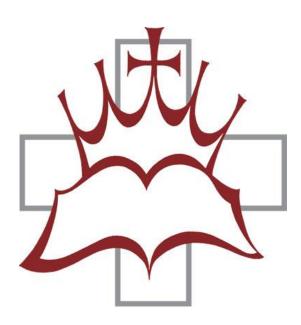


Raise your joys and tri - umphs high; Sing, Lo! Our Sun's e-clipse is o'er; Lo! Death in vain for-bids His rise; Christ Once He died our souls to save; Where

high; Sing, ye heav'ns, and earth, re - ply.
o'er; Lo! He sets in blood no more.
rise; Christ has o - pened par - a - dise.
save; Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave?

- Soar we now where Christ has led;
 Foll'wing our exalted Head.
 Made like Him, like Him we rise;
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies.
- 6 Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n!
 Praise to Thee by both be giv'n!
 Thee we greet triumphant now:
 Hail, the resurrection, Thou!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt. Tune: French, 13th cent. Text and tune: Public domain





Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high-est good!

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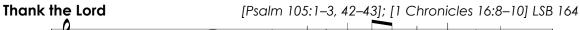
be giv - en As a en. it." and the Spir - it, And My king-dom thus in - her shield-ed ev - er. Yours on earth and Yours for - ev er. noth - ing sev - er From Your side this branch for - ev er. now have giv - en; Write
Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. it in the book of heav en!

Tune: Johann Rudolph Ahle, 1625-73, alt.

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Stand







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



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



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



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

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

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



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.

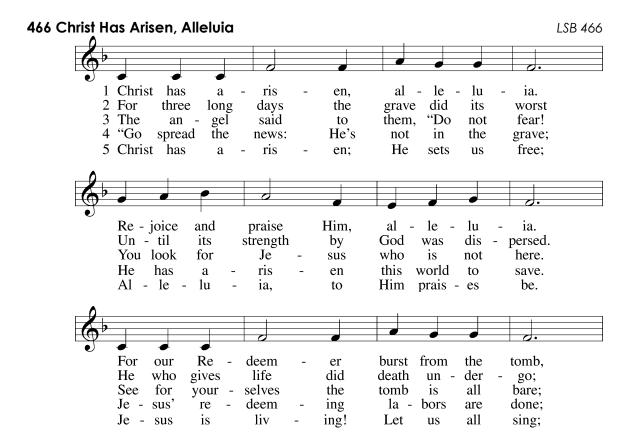
The Lord bless you and keep you.

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



(continued on next page)



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Acknowledgments

-- Week at a Glance --

Sunday August 6		Worship Service Sunday School (children & adults)
Monday August 7		Last Day for Pastoral Characteristics Survey
Tuesday August 8	2:00 pm	Board of Evangelism Meeting LWML Meeting Elders Meeting
Wednesday August 9	6:00 pm	Pastor's Bible Study
Thursday August 10	2:00 pm	Chair Aerobics
Friday August 11		
Saturday August 12		
Sunday August 13	9:15 am 4:00 pm 5:15 pm	Worship Service w/ Communion Rally Sunday Pancake Breakfast Jr. Youth (4 th -6 th grades) Youth Group (7 th -12 th grades) College/Young Adult Group (ages 18-25)

Celebrating

Birthdays: Shelley B., Dan F. (6th); Erin B. (8th); Alma S., Eric T. (10th); Evelyn G.,

Deanna S. (11th); DelRay C., Kylie G., Kory S. (12th); Emilee M. (13th)

 $\textbf{Baptism Birthdays:} \ Ammi \ M., \ Nancy \ P. \ (7^{th}); \ Yancy \ A., \ Satine \ G., \ Brett \ N. \ (9^{th}); \ Nicole \ B.$

(12th); Patrick C. (13th)

Anniversaries: Brad & Teresa H. (11th)

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

Pastor's Midweek Bible Study

Luke – Wednesdays at 6 PM – Basement

Rally Sunday

Join us on Sunday, August 13th as we celebrate the beginning of another school year! Students may bring their backpacks to church that morning for the Backpack Blessing from Pastor Ben (during both worship services). Enjoy a pancake breakfast at 9:15 AM hosted by Christ Youth – free will offering will help offset costs for upcoming district and national youth gatherings and events.

Midweek at Christ

Our new Midweek program will begin on Wednesday, August 16th – 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.

Midweek Teachers & Helpers

We still could use a couple more teachers and helpers for our children's Midweek classes. If you can spare an hour of your time on Wednesday evenings, please contact DCE Amanda Adams.

Confirmation

Confirmation class has been expanded to include 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students this year. Class begins as part of our Midweek program on Wednesday, August 16th (4 PM). Please contact DCE Amanda Adams if your child will be attending.

Survey - Pastoral Characteristics - DEADLINE TOMORROW!

The Pastoral Characteristics Survey is another necessary step as we prepare to start the call process for an Associate Pastor. Please fill out this survey on our website (christlems.org) or pick up a paper copy in the coffee lobby. Survey deadline is Aug. 7th.

Call Committee

The Call Committee is the group of members from Christ tasked with looking through potential seminary candidates and (with prayerful consideration) finding our new Associate Pastor. The Call Committee is appointed by the Head Elder and the President of the Congregation. If you are interested in being a member of this committee, please contact John Hart (Head Elder) or Charles Hartman (President of the Congregation). Not all interested parties will be able to be on the committee, but all will be considered.

Text Alerts

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.)

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>Thank You</u>

A resounding THANK YOU to everyone who helped out with our Touch a Truck event. We are always so happy to see Christ at work as you share His love with the families of our community.

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."





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., 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.





RALLY SUNDAY

Sunday, August 13th

Join us as we celebrate the beginning of another school year!

Backpack Blessing

Students may bring their backpacks with them to church that morning.

Pastor will say a blessing for the coming school year!

Breakfast

Join us for breakfast at 9:15 am in the Schemm Family Life Center! A free will offering will be taken. Funds raised will help Christ Youth offset costs for upcoming district and national youth gatherings.



-- Every Wednesday --(Begins August 16th)

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

Christ Jesus, the Living Bread from Heaven, Feeds the Children of God

By the Gospel of "the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever" (Rom. 9:5), we are "the children of God" (Rom. 9:8), "not because of works but because of him who calls" (Rom. 9:11). Therefore, "listen diligently" and "hear, that your soul may live." By His sacrificial death in His flesh and blood, He has made "an everlasting covenant" for us. Since He now calls us to Himself, we come to Him "and eat what is good, and delight … in rich food" (Is. 55:2–3). He has come with divine compassion to save us from sin and death and to feed us with Himself. As our Lord Jesus once took bread, "said a blessing," broke the loaves, "and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds" (Matt. 14:18–19), He also now takes bread, blesses it by His Word to be His very body, and distributes it to His Church by the hand of His called and ordained servants. Just as "they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces," there is more than enough for His whole Church to eat and to be satisfied (Matt. 14:20).

Worship Attendance - Sunday, July 30th

8:00 AM – 38 10:30 AM – 56

Stewardship Corner

Budgeted Weekly Needs:	\$ 8,945
Offerings Received – Week of 7/30	\$ 12,489
Budgeted Needs (Jan-Jul 2023)	277,295
Offerings Received (Jan-Jul 2023)	\$ 248,051
Building Fund Offerings Received – Week of 7/30	\$ 250

Matthew 14:17–18 – "They said to him, 'We have only five loaves here and two fish.' And he said, 'Bring them here to me." The five loaves and two fish were all that the disciples had. But when they handed them over to the Lord, the multitudes were fed. Apart from Jesus, all we do and all we have comes to nothing. But in Jesus, the Lord blesses all we do and all we have for His gracious work.