

BUT WHO ARE YOU, O MAN, TO ANSWER BACK TO GOD?

ROMANS 9:20



ROMANS: The Theology of the Gospel

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 10, 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

852 O God of Mercy, God of Might

LSB 852



1 O God of mer - cy, God of might, In love and
2 And Thou, who cam'st on earth to die That our lost
3 Teach us the les - son Thou hast taught: To feel for
4 All are re - deemed, both far and wide, Since Thou, O



pit - y in - fi - nite, Teach us, as ev - er
world might live there - by, O hear us; for to
those Thy blood hath bought, That ev - 'ry word and
Lord, for all hast died. Grant us the will and



in Thy sight, To live our lives in Thee.
Thee we cry, In hope, O Lord, to Thee.
deed and thought May work a work for Thee.
grace pro - vide To love them all in Thee!

5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,
May we each other's burdens share;
May we, where help is needed, there
Give help as unto Thee!

6 And may Thy Holy Spirit move
All those who live to live in love
Till Thou shalt greet in heav'n above
All those who live in Thee.

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt.
Tune: Samuel Howard, 1710–82
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand



Divine Service Setting Four, page 203

✠ 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

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

C Amen.

Exhortation

Psalm 124:8; Psalm 130:3–4; Luke 18:13 203

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession of Sins

LSB 203

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Absolution

[John 20:19–23] *LSB* 203

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 92:1-4; antiphon: v. 5

- P** How great are your works, O LORD!
C **Your thoughts are very deep!**
P It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
C **to sing praises to your name, O Most High;**
P to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
C **and your faithfulness by night,**
P to the music of the lute and the harp,
C **to the melody of the lyre.**
P For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;
C **at the works of your hands I sing for joy.**
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 How great are your works, O LORD!
C **Your thoughts are very deep!**

Kyrie

Mark 10:47 204

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



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.


Kyrie Eleison

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29 LSB 204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

"Salutation" is a word from Latin meaning, "to salute" or "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.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

A The Epistle is from Romans, chapter 9.

¹I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit— ²that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. ⁴They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. ⁵To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.

⁶But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, ⁷and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” ⁸This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring. ⁹For this is what the promise said: “About this time next year I will return and Sarah shall have a son.” ¹⁰And not only so, but also when Rebecca had conceived children by one man, our forefather Isaac, ¹¹though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad—in order that God’s purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of his call— ¹²she was told, “The older will serve the younger.” ¹³As it is written, “Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.”

¹⁴What shall we say then? Is there injustice on God’s part? By no means! ¹⁵For he says to Moses, “I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion.” ¹⁶So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy. ¹⁷For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, “For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show my power in you, and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth.” ¹⁸So then he has mercy on whomever he wills, and he hardens whomever he wills.

¹⁹You will say to me then, “Why does he still find fault? For who can resist his will?” ²⁰But who are you, O man, to answer back to God? Will what is molded say to its molder, “Why have you made me like this?” ²¹Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for honored use and another for dishonorable use? ²²What if God, desiring to show his wrath and to make known his power, has endured with much patience vessels of wrath prepared for destruction, ²³in order to make known the riches of his glory for vessels of mercy, which he has prepared beforehand for glory— ²⁴even us whom he has called, not from the Jews only but also from the Gentiles? ²⁵As indeed he says in Hosea,

“Those who were not my people I will call ‘my people,’
and her who was not beloved I will call ‘beloved.’”

²⁶“And in the very place where it was said to them, ‘You are not my people,’ there they will be called ‘sons of the living God.’”

²⁷And Isaiah cries out concerning Israel: “Though the number of the sons of Israel be as the sand of the sea, only a remnant of them will be saved, ²⁸for the Lord will carry out his sentence upon the earth fully and without delay.” ²⁹And as Isaiah predicted,

“If the Lord of hosts had not left us offspring,
we would have been like Sodom
and become like Gomorrah.”

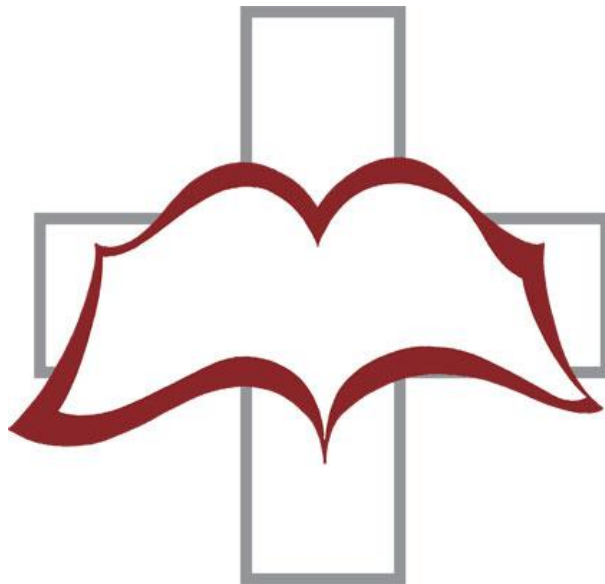
³⁰What shall we say, then? That Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith; ³¹but that Israel who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law. ³²Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone, ³³as it is written,

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense;
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand



Alleluia and Verse

Alleluia


205




C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Verse

John 20:31 LSB 205



C These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia

205



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:10–20

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹⁰“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. ¹¹For the Son of Man came to save the lost. ¹²What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? ¹³And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

¹⁵“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to

them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

Creed comes from the Latin “credo” which means “I believe.” We confess our Christian faith in one of the three creeds (short statement of belief) agreed upon by the ancient church.

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Sit

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.*

573 Lord, 'Tis Not That I Did Choose Thee

LSB 573



1 Lord, 'tis not that I did choose Thee; That, I know, could
 2 It was grace in Christ that called me, Taught my dark - ened
 △ 3 Praise the God of all cre - a - tion; Praise the Fa - ther's



nev - er be; For this heart would still re - fuse Thee Had Thy
 heart and mind; Else the world had yet en - thrall'd me, To Thy
 bound - less love. Praise the Lamb, our ex - pi - a - tion, Priest and



grace not cho - sen me. Thou hast from the sin that stained me
 heav'n - ly glo - ries blind. Now I wor - ship none a - bove Thee;
 King en - throned a - bove. Praise the Spir - it of sal - va - tion,



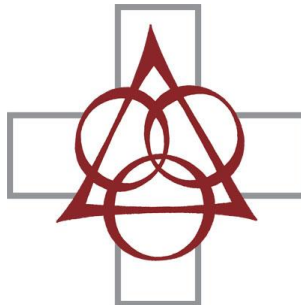
Washed and cleansed and set me free And un - to this
 For Thy grace a - lone I thirst, Know - ing well that,
 Him by whom our spir - its live. Un - di - vid - ed



end or - dained me, That I ev - er live to Thee.
 if I love Thee, Thou, O Lord, didst love me first.
 ad - o - ra - tion To the great Je - ho - vah give.

Text: Josiah Conder, 1789-1855, alt.
 Tune: Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen-Schatz, 1745, Basel
 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).

Reception of New Members by Transfer/Profession of Faith (10:30 only)

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 208

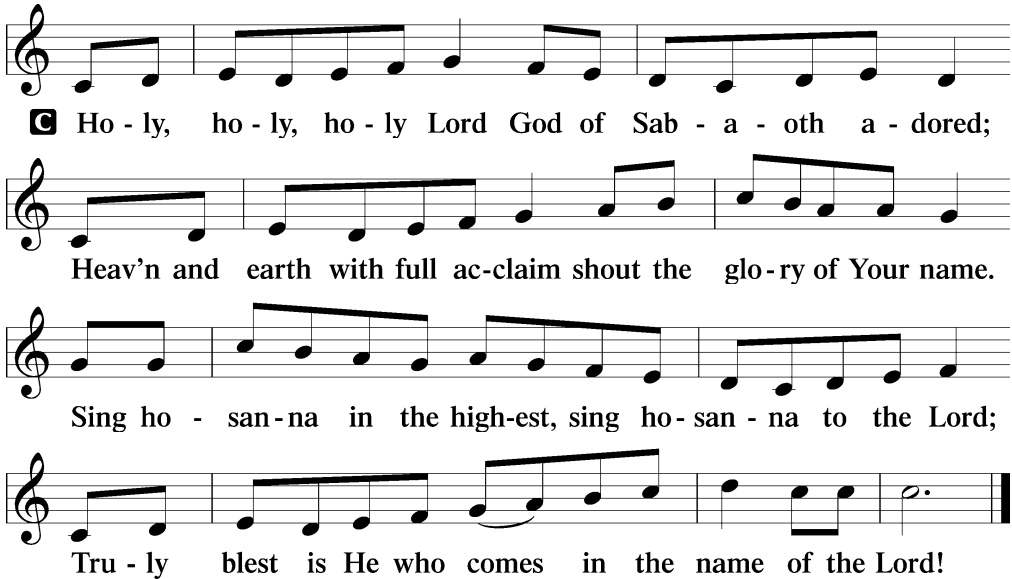
- P** The Lord be with you.
 - C** **And also with you.**
 - P** Lift up your hearts.
 - C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
 - P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
 - C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**
- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is

now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9 208

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Lord's Prayer

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

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

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29 LSB 210

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



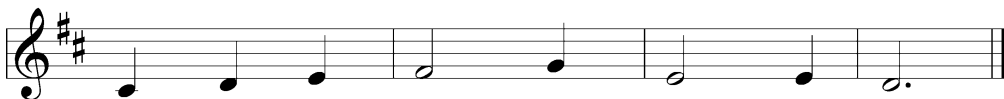
C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

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.

352 Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord

LSB 352



1 Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has tru - ly
2 What the Fa - thers most de - sired, What the proph - ets'
3 A - bram's prom - ised great re - ward, Zi - on's help - er,
4 As Your com - ing was in peace, Qui - et, full of



kept His word And at last to us did send
heart in - spired, What they longed for man - y a year,
Ja - cob's Lord— Him of two - fold race be - hold—
gen - tle - ness, Let the same mind dwell in me



Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.
Stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.
Tru - ly came, as long fore - told.
Which is Yours e - ter - nal - ly.

5 Bruise for me the serpent's head
That, set free from doubt and dread,
I may cling to You in faith,
Safely kept through life and death.

6 Then when You will come again
As the glorious king to reign,
I with joy will see Your face,
Freely ransomed by Your grace.

Text: Heinrich Held, 1620–59; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter
Text and tune: Public domain

690 Hope of the World

LSB 690



1 Hope of the world, Thou Christ of great com - pas - sion;
 2 Hope of the world, God's gift from high - est heav - en,
 3 Hope of the world, a - foot on dust - y high - ways,
 4 Hope of the world, who by Thy cross didst save us
 5 Hope of the world, O Christ, o'er death vic - to - rious,



Speak to our fear - ful hearts by con - flict rent.
 Bring - ing to hun - gry souls the bread of life,
 Show - ing to wan - d'ring souls the path of light,
 From death and dark de - spair, from sin and guilt,
 Who by this sign didst con - quer grief and pain,



Save us, Thy peo - ple, from con - sum - ing pas - sion,
 Still let Thy Spir - it un - to us be giv - en
 Walk Thou be - side us lest the tempt - ing by - ways
 We ren - der back the love Thy mer - cy gave us;
 We would be faith - ful to Thy Gos - pel glo - rious.



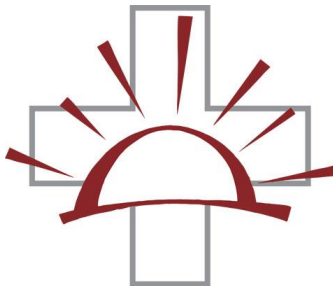
Who by our own false hopes and aims are spent.
 To heal earth's wounds and end our bit - ter strife.
 Lure us a - way from Thee to end - less night.
 Take Thou our lives and use them as Thou wilt.
 Thou our Lord! Thou dost for - ev - er reign!

Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974

Tune: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79

Text: © 1954, renewed 1982 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002199

Tune: Public domain



697 Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death

LSB 697



1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, And
2 To us on earth He came to bring From
3 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, Who
4 For us Christ lived, for us He died, And



Christ shall give you light; So learn His love, its
sin and fear re - lease, To give the Spir - it's
died that He might save; With kind and gen - tle
con - quered in the strife; A - wake, a - rise, go



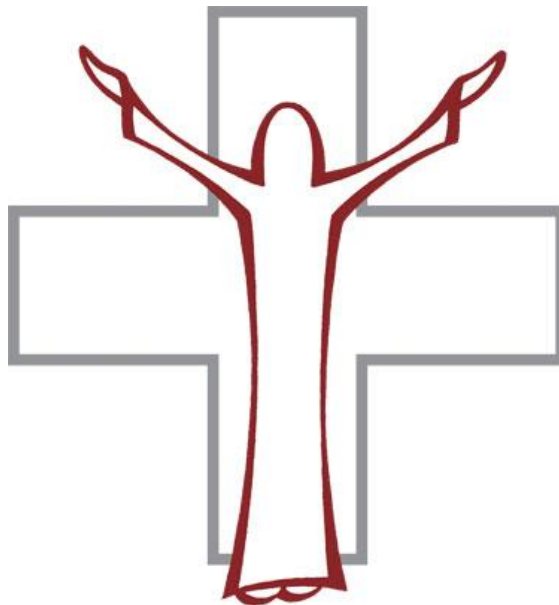
length and breadth, Its full - ness, depth, and height.
u - ni - ty, The ver - y bond of peace.
hearts for - give As God in Christ for - gave.
forth in faith, And Christ shall give you life.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984;

Tune: Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829

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Tune: Public domain



565 Thy Works, Not Mine, O Christ

LSB 565



1 Thy works, not mine, O Christ, Speak glad-ness to this heart;
 2 Thy wounds, not mine, O Christ, Can heal my bruised soul;
 3 Thy cross, not mine, O Christ, Has borne the crush-ing load
 4 Thy death, not mine, O Christ, Has paid the ran-som due;
 5 Thy righ-teous-ness, O Christ, A-lone can cov-er me;



They tell me all is done, They bid my fear de-part.
 Thy stripes, not mine, con-tain The balm that makes me whole.
 Of sins that none could bear But the in-car-nate God.
 Ten thou-sand deaths like mine Would have been all too few.
 No righ-teous-ness a-vails Save that which is of Thee.

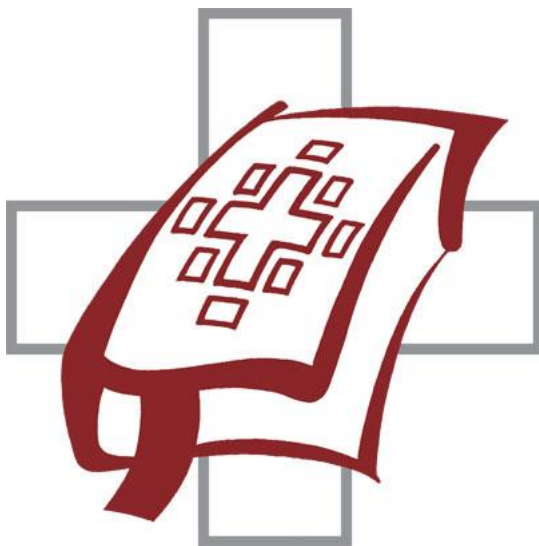
Refrain



To whom save Thee, Who canst a-lone For sin a-tone, Lord, shall I flee?

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–89, alt.
 Tune: The Parish Choir, 1850, London
 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand



Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32 LSB 211

(*NUNK dih-MIH-tuss*). Latin for “now [let your servant] depart,” from the Song of Simeon.

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;

A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.


Nunc Dimittis
SONG OF SIMEON

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

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

C Amen.

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.

Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1 LSB 212

(beh-neh-dih-KAH-moose), Latin for "bless we [the Lord]." We give thanks to God for everything He has done for us in Jesus Christ.

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

A final blessing from God this morning before we leave.

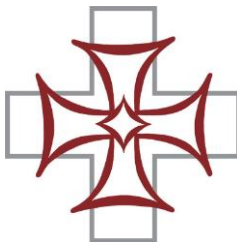
P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Sit





1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and bound-less; My soul, be-lieve and
 2 By grace! None dare lay claim to mer - it; Our works and con - duct
 3 By grace God's Son, our on - ly Sav - ior, Came down to earth to
 4 By grace! This ground of faith is cer - tain; As long as God is



doubt it not. Why stag - ger at this word of prom - ise?
 have no worth. God in His love sent our Re - deem - er,
 bear our sin. Was it be - cause of your own mer - it
 true, it stands. What saints have penned by in - spi - ra - tion,



Has Scrip - ture ev - er false - hood taught? No! Then this word must
 Christ Je - sus, to this sin - ful earth; His death did for our
 That Je - sus died your soul to win? No, it was grace, and
 What in His Word our God com - mands, Our faith in what our



true re - main: By grace you too will life ob - tain.
 sins a - tone, And we are saved by grace a - lone.
 grace a - lone, That brought Him from His heav'n - ly throne.
 God has done De - pends on grace— grace through His Son.

5 By grace to timid hearts that tremble,
 In tribulation's furnace tried,
 By grace, in spite of fear and trouble,
 The Father's heart is open wide.
 Where could I help and strength secure
 If grace were not my anchor sure?

6 By grace! On this I'll rest when dying;
 In Jesus' promise I rejoice;
 For though I know my heart's condition,
 I also know my Savior's voice.
 My heart is glad, all grief has flown
 Since I am saved by grace alone.

Text: Christian Ludwig Scheidt, 1709–61; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
 Tune: Cornelius Heinrich Dretzel, 1697–1775
 Text and tune: Public domain

Introduction of Chelsea Irwin, LCMS Missionary

Acknowledgments

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SEPTEMBER IS MISSIONS MONTH!

*Our mission is to share the love of Christ in all that we do.
We are proud to support missions in our own congregation,
throughout the city of Topeka and the state of Kansas,
across the country and around the world.*

*With numerous organizations and countless ways to serve,
we are spotlighting just a few of the organizations that we are able to help.*



Together in Mission partners LCMS congregations with missionaries around the world. We currently support Chelsea Irwin, who serves the Lord through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) in the Eurasia region as missionary coordinator for volunteer opportunities. Based out of Český Těšín, Czech Republic, she works with LCMS missionaries and local church partners to place and send volunteers to serve in Eurasia. These individuals or groups engage in projects such as English Bible Camps, theological education and mission education, to name a few. Chelsea seeks to challenge volunteers to live out the Great Commission by viewing each day as a mission trip. She encourages them to support and stay connected to the Eurasia region, as well as serving in their own churches and communities.

Please keep Chelsea Irwin and missionaries around the world in your prayers.

*To offer financial support to Chelsea and Together in Mission,
visit lcms.org/irwin or christlcm.org/giving ("Together in Mission").*

-- Week at a Glance --

Sunday September 10	8:00 & 10:30 am 9:15 am 2:00 pm 3:15 pm	Worship Service w/ Communion Sunday School (children & adults) Jr. Youth (4 th -6 th grades) – Q&A w/ Chelsea Irwin Youth Group (7 th -12 th grades) + College/YA Group (ages 18-25) – Bowling at West Ridge Lanes
Monday September 11		
Tuesday September 12	2:00 pm 6:30 pm	LWML Meeting Elders Meeting
Wednesday September 13	4:00 pm 5:15 pm 5:55 pm 6:05 pm 7:00 pm 7:20 pm	Midweek -- Confirmation Midweek – Meal (Spaghetti) Midweek – Worship Midweek -- Classes Children's Choir Adult Choir
Thursday September 14	2:00 pm 6:00 pm	Chair Aerobics Christian Skate Night at Sk8away
Friday September 15	1:30 pm 6:00 pm	Young at Heart Family Movie Night (The Emperor's New Groove)
Saturday September 16	10:00 am	Men's Zoom Bible Study
Sunday September 17	8:00 & 10:30 am 9:15 am	Worship Service w/ Communion Sunday School (children & adults)

Celebrating

Birthdays: Jenni H., Doris T. (10th); Sam R., Coralyne T. (11th); Lindsey C., Greta J., Kari Ann W. (12th); Hannah M., Audrey S. (14th); Barrett W. (15th); Addelynn M., Dave S. (16th); Erin S. (17th)

Baptism Birthdays: Cora J. (11th); Stephen B. (12th); Alan H. (13th); Deanna S. (14th); Lincoln S. (16th)

Anniversaries: Eric & Marne C. (15th)

-- 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 6th grade) – Upstairs Education Wing
Youth (7th-12th grades) – Basement Youth Room

Midweek at Christ (Wednesday)

4:00 pm – Confirmation (6th, 7th, 8th grades)
5:15 pm – Meal (Free!)
5:55 pm – Worship (Brief service including prayer and a Bible reading)
6:05 pm – Classes (Christian education for all ages)
7:00 pm – Children's Choir
7:20 pm – Adult Choir

Saturday Bible Studies

9:30 am monthly – Women's Bible Study (contact LaJean Rinker or the church office)
10:00 am weekly – Men's Zoom Bible Study (contact Eric Turner or the church office)

Missions Month

September is Missions Month! Each week we will spotlight one of the many missions we support here at Christ. We will also have a special guest on September 10th – Chelsea Irwin, the missionary we support through Together in Mission, will be here at Christ! She'll join us for worship and will be presenting during Pastor's 9:15 AM class that day.

Bible Reading Challenge

3rd Quarter prizes are now available in the coffee lobby! 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). Or if you'd like a sweet treat without the sugar, we still have some sugar-free chocolates that you can take instead.

Christian Skate Night

This Thursday is Christian Skate Night at Sk8away (815 SW Fairlawn Rd). All are welcome to meet for some roller skating fun from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. \$5 admission includes skate rental.

-- Announcements --

Family Movie Night – THIS FRIDAY!

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.

Christ Women's Retreat Day

The LWML ladies are inviting all women at Christ Lutheran to join us for a Women's Retreat Day on Saturday Sept. 23rd. It is a day of fellowship, fun, games, laughter, Bible Study, visiting, and of course plenty of good food. We will begin around 9:00 am with a breakfast brunch, snack mid-day, and conclude late afternoon with a wiener roast. Hot dogs and buns will be provided. Bring a favorite dish to share. Come join us as you can that day. It will be held at Jolene Balch's home. If you need the address or directions, contact Jolene or the church office.

Magazines Wanted

SLI is looking for old/used magazines for their residents to use for art projects. If you have any that you would like to donate instead of throwing them in the recycling bin, please leave them in the box in the coffee lobby. Thank you!

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

3509 SW BURLINGAME RD.

WWW.CHRISTLCMS.ORG



FREE!

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

FRIDAY, SEPT. 15

6:00 PM

-- Announcements --

Reception of Members by Transfer/Profession of Faith

Please welcome our newest members – Ashley Adams, Bobby and Pam Busch, Jessie Hauser (with sons Parker and Jaxson), Jon Jensen, George Liesmann, Allyson Null, and Viktor Nadeau! Be sure to introduce yourself and say hello!

Sanctuary Renovations Fund

We are still raising funds for our sanctuary renovation. These updates will provide easier access to the altar rail for communion (without steps), as well as provide a designated area for our musicians.

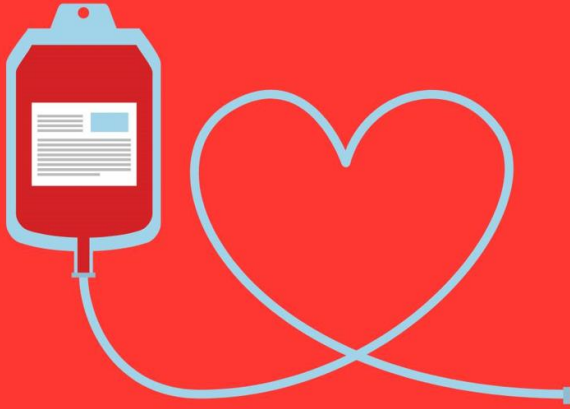
Construction will not begin until all funds have been collected. We have currently raised around \$35,000 of our \$50,000 goal. Thank you to all who have already donated!

For those prayerfully considering a gift, you may designate "Renovations" on your check or offering envelope, or choose the "Building Construction & Renovation" fund when giving online through Vanco (christlcms.org/giving).

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), Carlisle G., 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.

Pray WITHOUT
CEASING



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OCTOBER 31ST

6:00-8:00 PM

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

Living as Humble Little Children of the Father

True greatness is not self-sufficient strength, but humility like that of a little child. The greatness of childlike faith receives all good things as gracious gifts from our Father in heaven. Apart from such faith, “*you will never enter the kingdom of heaven,*” but whoever is humbled like a little child will be “*the greatest in the kingdom of heaven*” (Matt. 18:3–4). Though in our sin we deserve to be “*drowned in the depth of the sea*” (Matt. 18:6), we have instead been drowned (“buried”) with Christ in Baptism and then raised to the new, humble life of a child of God. The Lord sends His watchman to warn us with a word from His mouth, in order that we may not die in our iniquity but be turned from our pride and selfishness to live (Ezek. 33:7–9). Thus, we live in humility and faith before God as well as in love for our neighbor, which “*is the fulfilling of the law*” (Rom. 13:10). In the reverent fear of God, we do no harm to our neighbor, but we “*pay to all what is owed to them*” (Rom. 13:7) and we “*owe no one anything, except to love each other*” (Rom. 13:8).

Worship Attendance – Sunday, September 3rd

8:00 AM – 69

10:30 AM – 64

Stewardship Corner

<i>Budgeted Weekly Needs:</i>	\$ 8,945
<i>Offerings Received – Week of 9/3</i>	\$ 7,129
<i>Budgeted Needs (Jan-Aug 2023)</i>	\$ 313,075
<i>Offerings Received (Jan-Aug 2023)</i>	\$ 278,355
<i>Building Fund Offerings Received – Week of 9/3</i>	\$ 220

Matthew 18:4 – “Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.” What does it mean to have childlike faith? Certainly Jesus does not want us to have a faith that is *childish* — we are not called to ignorance or silliness. Rather, we are called to trust the way a child trusts: with complete confidence in the Father. We show that confidence in our lives when we follow His directives for our life. Father knows best, so we’ll take His advice!