

Christ Lutheran Church
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Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 14, 2025

THE WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:00 AM In-Person & Zoom

The grumbling of the religious leaders in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God seeks and saves the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As the writer of 1 Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.

WELCOME

Announcements & Prelude

*** A Call to Worship**

P: Stirring within us

C: Is a longing to be loved.

P: God says: "You are the beloved."

C: Aching within us is our desire for our true home.

P: God says: "Come home. Here you will find rest."

C: Rising within us is our search for a vision larger than the pressing moment.

P: God says: "I will give you a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night to guide you."

C: Brewing within us is a yearning for community.

P: God says: "I have called you by name and given you one another to love."

C: Being born within us is a song of hope and a melody of praise.

* Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful and loving God,

C: we are your stiff-necked people.

We trample on the needy.

We grumble about your grace to others.

We turn away from the poor.

Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.

**Rejoice over us as ones who were lost
and have been found.**

Amen.

P: Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.

Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.

You who were lost have been found.

In the name of ☩ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

C: Amen.

* **Gathering Hymn 715**

“Christ, Be Our Light”

* Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the
communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

* Gloria

(Setting 6 – Page 167)

Refrain S 167

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace
to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the
high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa-ther,
we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace
to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the
high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:



have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right



hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the



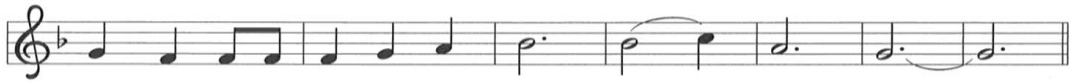
high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



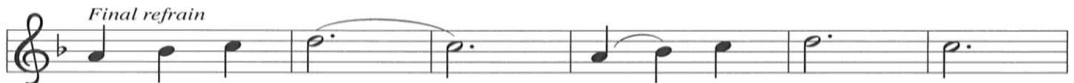
3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a -



lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est.



A - men, a - men.

* Prayer of the Day

O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Lesson: *Exodus 32:7-14*

⁷ The LORD said to Moses, “Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; ⁸ they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’ ” ⁹ The LORD said to Moses, “I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. ¹⁰ Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation.”

¹¹ But Moses implored the LORD his God and said, “O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth’? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’ ” ¹⁴ And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody: *Psalms 51:1-10*

¹ Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out | my offenses.

² **Wash me through and through | from my wickedness,
and cleanse me | from my sin.**

³ For I know | my offenses,
and my sin is ev- | er before me.

⁴ **Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil | in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right | in your
judgment.**

⁵ Indeed, I was born | steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my | mother's womb.

⁶ **Indeed, you delight in truth | deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom | deep within.**

⁷ Remove my sins with hyssop, and I | shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be pur- | er than snow.

⁸ **Let me hear | joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken | may rejoice.**

⁹ Hide your face | from my sins,
and blot out | all my wickedness.

¹⁰ **Create in me a clean | heart, O God,
and renew a right spir- | it within me.**

Second Lesson: *1 Timothy 1:12-17*

¹² I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he considered me faithful and appointed me to his service, ¹³ even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴ and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶ But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience as an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷ To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

* Gospel Acclamation

(Setting 6 – Page 171)

S 171a

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 15th chapter.C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**The Holy Gospel: *Luke 15:1-10*

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³ So he told them this parable: ⁴ “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ ⁷ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸ “Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹ And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ ¹⁰ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Daniel Swanson

Hymn 704

“When Pain of the World Surrounds Us”

* Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

The Prayer of the Church

* Sharing of the Peace of the Lord

**We Offer Our Gifts to the Lord
Anthem**

**Organ Voluntary
Chancel Choir**

* Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

* The Offertory

Hymn

“Bring a Gift of Love”--Mary Kay Bottens

Bring a gift of love, bring a gift of love, bring a gift of love today.

Bring an offering to our Lord and King, tell the world he is the Way!

Bring a gift of love, bring a gift of love, bring a gift of love today.

In this quiet hour of worship, bring a gift of love.

* Offertory Prayer

**L: Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

* The Great Thanksgiving

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 God thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed rightand join their unending hymn:

(Holy, Holy Holy)

(Setting 6 – Page 173)

S 173

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow - er and might,
 heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

* The Words of Institution

* The 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.

P: Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

C: Amen. Thanks be to God.

The Agnus Dei (*Lamb of God*)

(Setting 6 – Page 174)

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -

way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Distribution of the Sacrament

* Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C: Amen.

* The Prayer after Communion

L: O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C: Amen

* Blessing

P: The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, † bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

* Sending Hymn 714

“O God of Mercy, God of Light”

* Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

C: Thanks be to God.

* Postlude

In Bread and Wine our Lord Jesus meets us and we receive His Body and Blood given and shed for our forgiveness. It is a meal of love, forgiveness and renewal. If you are visiting with us today and are a baptized Christian and desire to commune, please do come to the table of the Lord. Children and youth who have not received instruction in the meaning of the Sacrament are cordially invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Please come toward as directed by ushers by the center aisle and return by the side aisles.

Lectors for our Services

This Sunday, Sept 14 – Gary Llewellyn

Wednesday, Sept 17 – Paul Chiarenza

Next Sunday, Sept 21 – Anne DeVaughn

Next Wednesday, Sept 24 – Debbie Fornwalt

Sept Ushers – Jeff Smith, Barb Simmons

Organist – Rae Ann Smith

A/V – Steve, Dave, Joyce

The Bulletins has been given to the glory of God in memory of parents, Kermit & Thelma Failing by Ray & Dianne Short.

The Communion Bread has been given to the glory of God in memory of our Mothers by Jim & Shirley Smith.

The September Newsletter has been given to the glory of God in memory of parents, Kermit & Thelma Failing by Ray & Dianne Short.

We have a hearing assistance system in the sanctuary. If you are having problems hearing our service, please ask the usher for a receiver.

Hope that you have picked up your name tags from the board in the main entrance. They are in alphabetical order. Please return to the board when leaving. Thanks

Church Council has scheduled a **Congregational meeting for next Sunday, September 21** following worship, at which time *the 2024 Financial Books can be closed, and we can update the congregation on the sale of our property.* Please plan to attend.

New Bible Studies - We completed our study of Revelation on Sunday, August 31st. We are now studying women of the Bible on Sunday mornings, 11:30am. We will begin a study on Thursday mornings, **starting September 25th at 10:30am** on God and Suffering. Please come join us!

Christ Lutheran Church, with the help of community members, is building a memorial garden for use by our community for remembering loved ones, or just quiet contemplation and connection with nature. It will consist of a bench for resting, a memorial stone for experiencing artistic beauty, a tree (weeping redbud) for experiencing natural beauty, and a labyrinth for centering thoughts. It joins with our meadow meander - already developed - for (guess what!) connecting with the beauty of nature through all five senses, and our community pantry garden and orchard that provides fresh produce along with companionship for neighbors who need it. **If you're into rocks, or puzzling, join us to build Tuesday mornings 7-9am. Or come to visit anytime.** Easy access is from Martz Lane behind the church - just park on the grass.

Thanks to everyone who has kept the donations coming for the LaVale Food Pantry! For the month of September, we'd like to encourage you to donate **canned tuna**. We also welcome any other unopened and unexpired non-perishable food items.

This week –

This Sunday –Worship - 10:00am followed by Adult Sunday School

Tuesday – Garden labyrinth – 7-9am

Special Kennel Club Board Meeting – 5:30pm

Wednesday – Worship Service – 6:30pm

Chancel Choir rehearsal – 7:30pm

Thursday – Kennel Club Meeting – 7:00pm

Reach Meal Prep.

Friday – Diane's Music classes, Lady Birds – 11:00am

Reach Meal Prep.

Saturday – Reach Meal Prep. & service – 3-5:00pm

Next Sunday, Worship – 10:00am followed by Congregation Meeting, (if time Adult SS)

Church Yard Sale – Fundraising is planning a **Christmas Yard sale** on Friday, October 31st and Saturday, Nov 1st from 8-12pm. **We need Christmas decorations, ornaments or anything Christmas for this sale.** You may bring to church starting on Sunday, October 26th. Thanks again!

CLC Archival Items & Artifacts - To help us preserve and manage our collection with care, please follow these guidelines when interacting with the CLC Archives Room:

- Donating or Borrowing: Kindly sign the designated log sheet when donating or borrowing any items or artifacts.
- Dropping Off or Returning: Please place all items on the log sheet table so our archives team can properly process and store them.

Your cooperation ensures the integrity and organization of our archives—thank you for being part of it! The CLC Archives Team

Stock the Shelves for Mission and Ministry - Our Church Council at our June meeting decided to help our 2025 budget.

Some of the items needed are:

- **AA, AAA and 9V size batteries**
- **dishwashing liquid and paper towels**
- **cleaning supplies, bleach, toilet bowl cleaners etc.**
- **white copier paper: (reg., legal or ledger), colored paper and postage stamps**
- **napkins, paper plates, bowls and cups**
- **Baggies (large and small), aluminum foil and clear wrap**
- **toilet paper, disinfectant wipes & sprays, window cleaners, hand sanitizers**

We thank you for your help in any small way. **We will be collecting items through the month of September.** Devotions may be placed on the table in the main narthex.

Thanks

LAST WEEK'S REPORT – September 7, 2025

Attendance	In-Person 10:00am =	48	Adult SCS =	8
	Zoom 10:00am =	9		
Wed. Sept 3	In-Person 6:30pm =	13		
	Zoom 6:30pm =	2		

BUDGET OFFERINGS FOR 2025

Received	=	\$4,475.00
Needed weekly	=	<u>4,044.04</u>
		430.96

BUDGETED ACCOUNTS – JAN-AUGUST 2025

Actual Income	=	\$131,991.85
Actual Expenses	=	(<u>145,994.65</u>)
		(\$ 14,002.80)

PRAYER LIST FOR SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

PRAYER RECIPIENT - MEMBERS

Jack Zealand
Anna Bruck
Bill & MarySue Crawford
Gail Dawson
Jane Miller
Gary Llewellyn
Mitzie & Jerry Robinette
Barbara Martin
Patty Wilson
Ed Havens
Dianne Short
Clem Dawson
Dave & Lisa Ahern
Kim Shoemaker
Fay Crawford
David LaBuda
Rosey & Becky McIntyre
Jonathan and Danielle Ahern
Tammy Faulkner
Pam & Dave Judy
David Tibbetts
Joyce DeMonbrun
Kathy Powell
Sharon McKenzie
Mary Lou Rowles
Donna Yaider
Laura Murray

PRAYER RECIPIENT

Christina Puffinburger	<i>Requested by</i> Elwood & Janet Glass
Raymond Garthwait, Stephen Overtoom	Gail Dawson
Charles Johnson, Barbara Williams	Sharon M
Joe Kunsman, Linda Nines, Ellen Hill	Mitzie & Jerry
Brittney Meyers, Talot Omar, Terry Baker	Mitzie & Jerry
Nathan Winters	Dianne Short
Charlotte & Ed Troutman, Arlene Simmons.	Amy, Jacie Fairall Barb Simmons
Carl Chiarenza, Karen Mackert	Paul & Ruth C
Elise & Henry Jack Balber	Jack Zealand
Trina, Trinity, Asia, Faith	Debbie & Pam
Cheryl Trusler	Joyce D
Cheri Bielen	Jane Miller
Baby Whetzel, Kevin Mistretta, Carolyn Farr, Kendra Morriss, Paula Rose	Diane
Dan Moore, Graham Tower, Lisa Storm, Jaime Pletcher, Karen Ford	Diane K
Richard Clark, Zachary Sutterfield, Alexis Smith	Anne DeVaughn
Diane Davis, Nancy Smith, James Flynn	Antoinette Royster
Joy Kroeger-Mappes Carmen and Lance Jackson	Antoinette Royster
Bob Aman, Susie Spiker	Shirley & Jim Smith
Gretchen Burke	Val & Gary Llewellyn
Sally, Roger, James Tibbets	Dave Tibbetts
Andy Cocco	John Cocco
Marie Turnbull, Steven Suzindlak, Taylor Neumann	Lita Havens
Dan Carr, Matt Doman	Steven Hansrote
Lois Shunk	Sherry T
Don Ringer, Stephanie Georgiane	Kristan Fazenbaker
Mary Lou Dorsey	Trina Firey
Vic Werner	Barbara Martin
Belinda Keller	Linda McCagh
Madeline Lopes	Al James
Barbara Blough	Janice & Dave LaBuda
Galen Dean Krepps	Lisa Ahern
Jared McGensie, Stefan Twigg, Chris Twigg	Patty Wilson and Rosey

Please keep us updated

- the family of Woodrow Spiker
- all people affected by the wildfires and other disasters
- all people of the Ukraine and all affected by the war
- all elected officials
- those who serve in our nation's armed forces including Rick Rounds, Tom Forrest



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