



VISION STATEMENT: Christ Lutheran Church will continue its Christ-centered, life directed focus, responding to the needs of its members, emphasizing local and worldwide witness, and acting as a catalyst for the improvement of the neighborhood.

Hymns & Liturgy: Service Folder

The Epistle Lesson: Romans 8:28-39

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Organist: Mrs. Judy Eckhoff

Sermon: Rev. Karl F. Eckhoff

"Hidden-Revealed" Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

HOSPITALIZED: OSF- Tom Schepke

CONTINUED PRAYERS: Rev. Rodger Abatie, Rev. Louis Knief, Jayme Knapp, Mike Clayton, Barb Dreher, Shawn Foote, Abigail Young, Eddy Jones, Pat Kretzmann (Rebecca Best's mother), Riley Stanley (great granddaughter of Catherine Evans), Rev. Wayne Ahrens (son-in-law of Pastor and Hilda Knief), Donna Hawbecker, Bud Neptun, Jervon Hester, Ron Seibels, Beverly Petrovic, Bonnie Hester, Larry Hartness, Jan Long, Shirley Swanson, Carol Walton (friend of Marilyn Berkshier and Laura Baize), for those in the military, for our Church Boards and their members, for Christians being persecuted worldwide.

THE BOARD OF ELDERS REMINDS YOU that if you wish to have your prayer request added to the Christ Lutheran Prayer Chain, please contact either the church office (309)637-5309 or laura@berkshier.net or our Lay Minister, Al Schneider (697-9475 or aschneider@sbcglobal.net). *If you would like to be on the prayer chain and receive emails about prayer requests, please email Laura or call the church office.*

LAST WEEK: Tithes and Offerings: \$; MTD: \$16,642.00. Improvement Fund: \$; MTD: \$415.00. Attendance: 116.

THIS IS THE 35th SUNDAY OF OUR PLEDGE YEAR.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR TODAY are given to the glory of God and for the safe delivery of Lucian Leland Bahn, Great-Great Grandson of Barbara O'Dell, born July 23, 2020 to Tim Bahn & Tina Sampson.

THERE ARE ENVELOPES AVAILABLE for the school kitchen remodeling project. Should you wish to donate, you'll find the envelopes on the table in the back of the sanctuary by the offering plate. You can also donate online through the church website, www.christlutheranpeo.org.

ONLINE SERVICES are available on the church website, www.christlutheranpeo.org. Services will also be posted on the church Facebook page. Bulletins and abbreviated service folders will continue to be emailed for those who cannot attend services in person.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - Matthew 13:45-46 – "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it." Indeed, Jesus redeemed us and purchased us back from sin and death with all that He had. We belong to Him now. And this is the foundation for our own generosity: imitating the out-sized generosity of Jesus.

BAPTIZED INTO THE FAMILY OF GOD this morning is Rufus Andrew Grebe, son of Luke and Jana Grebe. Sponsors and Witnesses of Ellie's baptism this morning are Scott Garman and Jaime Bambrick.

OFFERING STATEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE. If you would like to have a copy of your statement emailed or mailed (via USPS) to you, please contact Laura in the church office at 637-5309.

A REVISED DIRECTORY WILL BE EMAILED TO YOU NEXT WEEK, so if you have any changes to note, please send them to Laura via email or you can call the church office (637-5309). If you leave a message for a change of email address, please be sure to spell out emails! Also, if you aren't signed up for One Call and would like to be, please leave phone numbers and email addresses when you call. Thank you!

THERE ARE SEVERAL OPENINGS to provide flowers for the altar for Sunday services. If you would like to sign up, the flower chart is at the top of the ramp in the annex. You can also contact Christel VandeVoorde at 267-3053.

THE WATCH STEERING COMMITTEE is making plans to hold the WATCH weekend November 20-22 if at all possible. In preparation, we would like to have ANY who are interested in being a participant, helping in any way, or having any information about this event... contact Barbara O'Dell 635-7962. This is a chance to leave the stress of a hectic lifestyle for a few days of fellowship & worship.

2020 BOARD OF ELDERS

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Joshua Eckhoff, Chairman | (309)678-9660 |
| Chad Whitehead, V. Chair | (309)256-5971 |
| Tommie Washington | (309)648-9626 |
| Kirk Wessler | (309)256-9093 |
| Terry Mooney, Jr..... | (309)472-8052 |
| Luke Grebe | (309)868-2299 |
| Larry Von Behren | (309)360-4305 |

AS YOU LOOK FORWARD to your worship next Sunday, you should read the appointed lessons for the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost:

The First Lesson: Isaiah 55:1-5

The Second Lesson: Romans 9:1-5 (6-13)

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost July 26, 2020

AS WE GATHER

Treasures are hard to find and even harder to hold on to. Jesus describes the kingdom of God as a great treasure hidden in a field, a pearl of great price, and a net full of fish. But this treasure is one of God's own making. He esteems us His treasured possession and delivers up His own Son that we might be His own and live under Him in His kingdom without end.

HYMN "One Thing's Needful" v. 1,3 [LSB 536]

1 One thing's needful; Lord, this treasure
Teach me highly to regard.
All else, though it first give pleasure,
Is a yoke that presses hard!
Beneath it the heart is still fretting and striving,
No true, lasting happiness ever deriving.
This one thing is needful; all others are vain--
I count all but loss that I Christ may obtain!

3 Wisdom's highest, noblest treasure,
Jesus, is revealed in You.
Let me find in You my pleasure,
And my wayward will subdue,
Humility there and simplicity reigning.
In paths of true wisdom my steps ever training.
If I learn from Jesus this knowledge divine,
The blessing of heavenly wisdom is mine.

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God, our Father.
People: **O Lord, have mercy upon us. We have offended You in thought, word, and deed. We have sinned against our neighbor. Forgive us all our sins according to the promise of Your mercy revealed to us in Jesus Christ, our Lord. As He suffered and died to cover our sins, cover us with His righteousness, and grant us grace that today and every day we live upright, sober, and godly lives to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Through the mercy of God in Christ Jesus, our Savior, you have been made children of God in Baptism and live because of His mercy. 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.

People: Amen.

Pastor: May He who began this good work within you bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Peace be with you.

People: And also with you.

EPISTLE Romans 8:28–39

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 13:31-33; 44–52

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Lord of mercy, hear the prayers of Your people who call upon You in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Almighty God, Your love once created all things and set apart a people of Your promise. Grant to us faith that we believe Your Word, heed the call of Your love, and find peace in Your gift of salvation.

Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Blessed Father, Your love is our great treasure and Your kingdom Your gift. Grant that we with bold voice make known Your salvation to all the ends of the earth. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Merciful God, You established Your Church and endowed her with Your Word and Your Sacraments. Bless all pastors and missionaries as they serve us in Your name with Your gifts and grace. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Mighty God, You have set over us leaders who exercise the authority of the state for our protection against enemies and for justice against evildoers. Bless our president, the Congress of these United States, and all who make, administer, and judge our laws. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Compassionate God, Your Son was wounded for our transgressions, and in His wounds are healing and strength. Hear us on behalf of all the sick, those who suffer, the grieving, and the dying, [especially . . .]. Grant them all that is needed to support them in their hour of need. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: God of grace, You have given to us the gift of work and the privilege of using the fruits of our labors for the support of our families and ourselves. Give us a generous heart that we give aid to the poor and honor to You with the worship of our hearts and the tithes and offerings of our hands. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Blessed Father, Your Son has set His Table before us and offers to us His flesh as our food and His blood as our drink. Give us hearts of faith and fill us with repentance that what we receive from Him we keep faithfully until that day when we join all Your saints to rejoice in Your presence on high. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: hear our prayer.

Local concerns may be added here.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
People: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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.
People: Amen.

HYMN "Go, My Children, with My Blessing" v. 1, 2 [LSB 922]

1. Go, My children, with My blessing, Never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are my own.
In My love's baptismal river, I have made you Mine forever.
Go, My children, with My blessing - You are My own.
2. Go, My children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure.
Here you heard My dear Son's story; Here you touched Him, saw His glory,
Go My children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.