



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: Worship Folder

The Epistle Lesson: Romans 14:1-12

Holy Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

Organist: Mrs. Connie Bremer

Adult Choir: *Song and service*

Sermon: Rev. Karl F. Eckhoff

"Handling Differences" Romans 14:1-12

HOSPITALIZED:

CONTINUED PRAYERS: Rev. Rodger Abatie, Rev. Louis Knief, Jayme Knapp, Jason Knapp, Brandon Neiman, Linda Wood, Mike Clayton, Shawn Foote, Abigail Young, Eddy Jones, Pat Kretzmann (Rebecca Best's mother), Rev. Wayne Ahrens (son-in-law of Pastor and Hilda Knief), Donna Hawbecker, Bud Neptun, Bonnie Hester, Larry Hartness, Jan Long, Shirley Swanson, Steve Von Behren, Louie Heuermann, Carol Walton (friend of Marilyn Berkshier and Laura Baize), Deb Mingus, sister-in-law of Joe and June Bembenek; the 92nd birthday of Audrey Atkinson this Saturday, September 19th; 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: \$6,356.00; MTD: \$47,135.36. Improvement Fund: \$290.00; MTD: \$760.00. Attendance:

THIS IS THE 42nd SUNDAY OF OUR PLEDGE YEAR.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR TODAY are given by Laura Baize, to the glory of God and in celebration of the 7th birthday today of her granddaughter, Madalynne Markovich.

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.

THE ANNUAL CHRIST LUTHERAN GOLF OUTING has a new date. **Saturday October 3rd at Weaver Ridge Golf Club.** Now is the time to begin making plans. Why not contact friends, family and co-workers to see if they are interested in having a round of golf to benefit a great cause. Don't forget to save the date, Saturday, October 3rd at Weaver Ridge! Registration begins at 11:00 with a noon tee time. We are seeking sponsorships. Do you know of someone who can help? Call the School Office at 637-1512 for more information.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - **Romans 14:7** – **"For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself."** We just don't belong to ourselves. We belong first of all to God, and, through Him, we belong to our neighbors. We are here to serve God in our service to one another. God has called you to this service through your vocation. As a Christian, you serve others in the church; as a neighbor, you serve others in society; and as a son or daughter, husband or wife, father or mother, you serve your family.

CENTRAL ILLINOIS DISTRICT SCHOLARSHIP SUNDAY IS TODAY - Gifts will be used to support our CID students who are attending an LCMS seminary or university to become a pastor, teacher or other full-time church worker. Please plan to make a generous gift. Gifts may be designated "CID Scholarship Fund" to be used for the 2020-2021 school year or be designated "CID Endowment Fund" to provide gifts every year for this ongoing need. Checks may be routed through your church's offering plate or sent to the Central Illinois District LC-MS, 1850 N. Grand Avenue West, Springfield, IL 62702-1626. If you are considering a major gift, or would like to include scholarships for CID seminarians or church worker students in your estate planning or through a life insurance policy, please contact CID Planned Gift Counselor, Rev. Charles Olander, at (217) 416-8842 or c-olander@msn.com for assistance. Thank you.

LWML WILL BE COLLECTING non-perishable food items and paper products on Sunday, September 27, 2020 at all three services. Any items will be greatly appreciated but especially needed are: canned ready to eat meals such as ravioli, spaghetti, etc., soups of any kind including chili, macaroni and cheese; dry pasta and spaghetti sauce, cereal for children and adults, canned fruit, toilet paper and paper towels. There will also be a mite collection on that day. Thank you for your support!

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.

THANK YOU for all the cards, well-wishes and gifts I received in celebration of my retirement! It has been a great blessing to teach at CLS! ~ Connie Bremer

DUE TO THE PANDEMIC the **Annual Christ Lutheran Dinner & Auction** has been postponed until Saturday April 24th, 2021. We know how much you look forward to our annual dinner and auction and we are pleased to be able to host you in the spring. Please call the school office at 637-1512 for more information or to make a reservation.

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

THIS WEEK THE LORD WILLING (SEP 14-SEP 20)

MON 9/14:

TUE 9/15:

WED 9/16: Adult Choir 7:00 PM

THU 9/17: Quilting NOON

FRI 9/18:

SAT 9/19:

SUN 9/20: Holy Communion..... 8:00 AM

Holy Communion..... 9:30 AM

Holy Communion..... 11:00 AM

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

The First Lesson: Isaiah 55:6-9

The Second Lesson: Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 13, 2020

AS WE GATHER

We live in a world filled with uncertainty, and much of this uncertainty is so personal. Who we are and what it is that gives our lives identity, meaning, and purpose go to the very heart of the questions for our times. Today, Paul reminds us that we belong to the Lord. Whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. Being the Lord's own is what shapes our self-understanding and defines how we relate to one another. All the things that divide us on earth and how we are tempted to identify ourselves by preference or desire are overcome by the Lord, who suffered for us, died to save us, and lives to set us free. This love makes it possible for us to see others as our brothers and sisters in Christ.

HYMN "In Thee Is Gladness" [LSB 818]

1 In Thee is gladness Amid all sadness,
Jesus, sunshine of my heart.
By Thee are given The gifts of heaven,
Thou the true Redeemer art.
Our souls Thou wakest, Our bonds Thou breakest;
Who trusts Thee surely Has built securely;
He stands forever: Alleluia!
Our hearts are pining To see Thy shining,
Dying or living To Thee are cleaving;
Naught can us sever: Alleluia!

2 Since He is ours, We fear no powers,
Not of earth nor sin nor death.
He sees and blesses In worst distresses;
He can change them with a breath.
Wherefore the story Tell of His glory
With hearts and voices; All heav'n rejoices
In Him forever: Alleluia!
We shout for gladness, Triumph o'er sadness,
Love Him and praise Him And still shall raise Him
Glad hymns forever: Alleluia!

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, confident of His grace and forgiveness to all who are penitent.

People: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

Pastor: The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. 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.

People: Amen.

WORD

Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious Lord, You have rescued us from our bondage to sin and given us a new life and identity in Baptism. Grant us Your grace that we live in peace with all people and show to those around us the same forgiveness that You have shown to us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

EPISTLE Romans 14:1–12 (If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord.)

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 18:21–35 (How often must I forgive my brother? How often has God forgiven you?)

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

CREED Apostles' Creed

SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Lord, grant that we not judge without mercy but forgive without limit, that we who have known the fullness of Your mercy in Christ also manifest a compassionate heart against those who sin against us. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, grant to Your Church Your Spirit and power, that we be supplied with faithful pastors and church workers to serve us in Your name, and that we hear and heed the voice of Your Word and walk in holiness of life. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, grant to those who lead us in this nation and in all the nations wisdom and integrity, that they pursue what is good and right and just according to Your Word and commands, and serve the common good. Deliver us from terror and threat, and give Your peace to the nations. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, grant to the sick and all who suffer any affliction of body, mind, or soul the blessing of Your mercy, with forgiveness according to Your will, and Your presence and comfort to sustain them through the day of trouble. Hear us especially on behalf of those for whom our intercession has been requested, [names], and those we name in our hearts. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, grant to the homeless, the widowed, the orphaned, and the unemployed Your strength to bear up under the weight of their trials and Your guidance to bring them to the places where their needs may be answered. Open our hearts to care for them and support them in their need. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, grant to us grace that none of us approach Your Table with unrepented sin, and help us to receive with faith and for our benefit the richest gifts of Your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, grant to us grateful hearts that with our voices we offer You the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and with our tithes and offerings show forth our confidence in Your loving care and our desire to support the work of Your Church. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Local concerns may be added here.

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

People: Amen.

**LORD'S PRAYER
THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION
PAX DOMINI**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

"I Lay My Sins on Jesus" [LSB 606]

1 I lay my sins on Jesus, The spotless Lamb of God;
He bears them all and frees us From the accursed load.
I bring my guilt to Jesus To wash my crimson stains
Clean in His blood most precious Till not a spot remains.

2 I lay my wants on Jesus; All fulness dwells in Him;
He heals all my diseases; My soul He does redeem.
I lay my griefs on Jesus, My burdens and my cares;
He from them all releases; He all my sorrows shares.

3 I rest my soul on Jesus, This weary soul of mine;
His right hand me embraces; I on His breast recline.
I love the name of Jesus, Immanuel, Christ, the Lord;
Like fragrance on the breezes His name abroad is poured.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. Grant us grace, heavenly Father, that we not think too highly of ourselves and too little of our neighbor, but give welcome in Your name to all people and rejoice because You have filled us with Your redeeming love in Jesus Christ, our Lord, with whom, in whom, and through whom all honor and glory is Yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, both now and forevermore.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

HYMN "Sent Forth by God's Blessing" [LSB 643]

1 Sent forth by God's blessing,
Our true faith confessing,
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.
The Supper is ended.
O now be extended
The fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of His teaching,
Receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
His grace did invite us,
His love shall unite us
To work for God's kingdom and answer His call.

2 With praise and thanksgiving
To God ever-living,
The tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing,
In love ever caring,
Embracing His children of each tribe and race.
With Your feast You feed us,
With Your light now lead us;
Unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living
With praise and thanksgiving
Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.