

**Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church & Preschool
July 28, 2024**

10th Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Paul Pfeffer

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Member of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
(*ELCA* – www.elca.org)



All Are Welcome – All the Time!

You do not need to be a member of this church or Lutheran to participate in any part of worship. If you wish to take communion, we ask that you desire a relationship with Jesus. His body and blood were given and shed for you.



Christ Lutheran Church & PreSchool is a community committed to the work of equity and inclusion, bringing justice and support for all of God's beloveds. We welcome those who are seeking God's love and grace for the first time or as a life-long believer. We welcome because Jesus shows us how to welcome, regardless of race, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, economic resources, relationship status, health challenges or anything else that too often divides us. It is in our welcome which we commit ourselves to being an anti-racist space, a space where we seek daily to deepen our work of inclusion in the life of our church. Our unity is in Christ. All are welcome here.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & SHARING OF PRAYER CONCERNS

By Kathy Davis, who will provide updated Prayers of Intercession

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

– Silence for reflection –

Most merciful God,

We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.

**We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed,
by what we have done and what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

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.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together in Christ. By grace we have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen us with power through the Holy Spirit that Christ may live in our hearts. **Amen.**

SONG: We Come to the Hungry Feast, ELW #479

(Printed on bulletin insert or in hymnal)

We come to the hungry feast, hungry for a word of peace.
To hungry hearts unsatisfied, the love of God is not denied.
We come, we come to the hungry feast.

We come to the hungry feast, hungry for a world released
from hungry folk of every kind, the poor in body, poor in mind.
We come, we come to the hungry feast.

We come to the hungry feast, hungry that the hunger cease,
and knowing, though we eat our fill, the hunger will stay with us; still
we come, we come to the hungry feast.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and
the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you. **And also with you!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for
your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be
the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus
Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

READING – 2 Kings 4:42-44

A man came from Baal-shalishah bringing food from the first fruits to the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the Lord: They shall eat and have some left." He set it before them; they ate and had some left, according to the word of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

RESPONSIVE READING – Psalm 145:10-18

All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord,
and all your faithful shall bless you.

They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom
and tell of your power,

to make known to all people your mighty deeds
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

The Lord is faithful in all his words
and gracious in all his deeds.

The Lord upholds all who are falling
and raises up all who are bowed down.

The eyes of all look to you,
and you give them their food in due season.

You open your hand,
satisfying the desire of every living thing.

The Lord is just in all his ways
and kind in all his doings.

The Lord is near to all who call on him,
to all who call on him in truth.

READING – Ephesians 3:14-21

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

– Please stand as you are able –

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (SUNG) – ELW 172

Halle, halle, halle – lujah. Halle, halle, halle – lujah.

Halle, halle, halle – lujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah!

THE GOSPEL – John 6:1-21

The Holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, “Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?” He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, “Two hundred denarii would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.” One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, “There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?” Jesus said, “Make the people sit down.” Now there was a great deal of grass in the place, so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted.

– continued –

When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, “Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.” So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, “This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.” When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, “It is I; do not be afraid.” Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

The Gospel of our Lord. Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON – Rev. Paul Pfeffer

SONG: What Feast of Love, ELW #487

(Printed on bulletin insert or in hymnal)

What feast of love is offered here, what banquet come from heaven?
What food of everlasting life, what gracious gift is given?
This, this is Christ the King, the bread come down from heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the manna given!

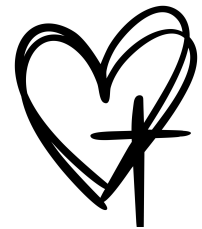
What light of truth is offered here, what covenant from heaven?
What hope of everlasting life, what wondrous word is given?
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heaven.
Oh, taste and hear and sing! The Word of God is given!

What wine of love is offered here, what crimson drink from heaven?
What stream of everlasting life, what precious blood is given?
This, this is Christ the King, the sweetest wine of heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is given!

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. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *(on separate sheet)*
Merciful God... Receive our prayer.



PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.
– *Please share a greeting or sign of peace* –

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks & praise.**



WORDS OF INSTITUTION *(not printed/Presider's book on altar)*

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.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION AT THE FRONT

All are welcome to receive the Real Presence of Christ in the bread and wine of Holy Communion. You do not need to be a member of this church or Lutheran to receive the sacrament. We ask that you desire a relationship with Jesus Christ. Those who are interested will be invited by an usher to come up the center aisle to the front to select a single-serving Communion kit from the tray, or to receive a blessing. Then return to your seat via the side aisle to open the kit and partake in Communion. An usher will offer a basket to collect the container. *For those worshipping at home, please consider joining in Holy Communion by taking a bit of bread or cracker and a sip of wine or juice.* **All are welcome.**

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

BENEDICTION

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

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

May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you His peace.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SONG: Praise and Thanksgiving, ELW #689

Printed on bulletin insert or in hymnal

Praise and thanksgiving, God, we would offer,
for all things living, you have made good:
Harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,
hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.

God, bless the labor we bring to serve you,
that with our neighbor we may be fed.

Sowing or tilling, we would work with you,
harvesting, milling for daily bread.

Father, providing food for your children,
by Wisdom's guiding teach us to share
one with another, so that rejoicing
with us, all others may know your care.

Then will your blessing reach every people,
freely confessing your gracious hand.

Where you are reigning, no one will hunger;
Your love sustaining showers the land.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace! Serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Open House – Sunday, August 25** – PreSchool families will be meeting their teachers in preparation for the start of the school year. Reach out to Kathy if you can lend a hand.
- **God's Work Our Hand's – August 8!** Activity TBD
- **Summer Kids Kamp** – More than 80 kids plus counselors and staff are participating in this summer's Kids Kamp. Please keep them all in your prayers!
- **Caring Hands** – Meetings break for summer, but work continues – reach out if you would like patterns (CaringHandsVernonHills@gmail.com)
- **Thank you to our Lawn Team** – Bill, Holly, Theresa, Bob, Tom and others. Reach out if you would like to help. Thank you.
- **Thank you to Wharton Paving!** Owner and friend Kelly will again patch and repair our parking lot this summer at a greatly reduced cost. Timing TBD.
- **Support for Anelly** – Our ministry partner Anelly, a young mother of two who has supported refugees in Chicago, has a recurrence of cancer. Please lift her in prayer and consider supporting the Meal Train with meals or donations. (HollySJ@earthlink.net)
- **Encampment Collection** – Thank you to all who contribute to our deliveries to the Chicago homeless encampment near Pastor Padraig's house. We continue to collect blankets/ sleeping bags (new or gently used/clean), socks, feminine products, hygiene items and Mariano's gift cards (store closest to camp).
- **Sanctuary Support** – For asylum seekers living in Chicago shelters. Wishlist includes diapers, formula, coats, children's clothes (baby to teen), children's/adult cold medicines, Advil/Tylenol, shoes, jackets, strollers, book bags, suitcases, storage bins with lids.
- **Sue's Pantry** – Toilet paper! Also flour, cooking oil, sugar. And anything needed to keep a home and family clean – dish soap, laundry detergent, body wash, shampoo.
- **Love INC** – Housewares, nonperishables and volunteers. Want to learn more? Have a child or family in need of a bundle of clothes or housewares? Give the details to Natalie she will get us covered! (Thanks, Natalie.) (<https://loveinclakecounty.org/>)
- **COOL Ministries** – We support the COOL pantry in Waukegan and Vernon Township Pantry with non-perishables. Collection bins in hallway or give online. (CoolMinistries.org)
- **Scouting America Troop 273** – Thank you for supporting our partner Scouts as they have supported us. **Looking to restart Cub Scouts!** Children/families ages Kindergarten through 4th grade are encouraged to reach out to Theresa (tcalabrese98@gmail.com).
- **Prayer concerns?** Please consider reaching out so that our network of Prayer Warriors can pray. You may remain anonymous. Please email ChristLutheranVH@aol.com with your request. If you would like to be part of the Prayer Team, please send an email.
- **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.** Your presence in worship is very important. Thank you for being part of this community of faith. If you would like to support the efforts of this community, we welcome donations, which can be provided by credit card or Paypal through the link at the bottom of our webpage, ChristLutheranVH.org. Thank you.