

**Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church & Preschool  
August 4, 2024**

**11th Sunday after Pentecost**

**Rev. Gail Heidtke**

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Member of the  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
(*ELCA* – [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org))



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**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: Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer, ELW #618**

*(Printed on bulletin insert or in hymnal)*

Guide me ever, great redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but you are mighty; Hold me with your powerful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore...  
Feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain, where the healing waters flow;  
Let the fire and cloudy pillar, lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, shield me with your mighty arm...  
Shield me with your your mighty arm.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs and praises, songs and praises, I will raise forevermore...  
I will raise forevermore.

## **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**

O God, eternal goodness, immeasurable love, you place your gifts before us;  
we eat and are satisfied. Fill us and this world in all its need with the life that  
comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **READING – EXODUS 16:2-4, 9-15**

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat and ate our fill of bread, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.” Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not.

Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites: ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’ ” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’ ” In the evening quails came up and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.

*The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God*

## **RESPONSIVE READING – Psalm 78:23-29**

Yet he commanded the skies above

**and opened the doors of heaven;**

he rained down on them manna to eat

**and gave them the grain of heaven.**

Mortals ate of the bread of angels;

**he sent them food in abundance.**

He caused the east wind to blow in the heavens,

**and by his power he led out the south wind;**

he rained flesh upon them like dust,

**winged birds like the sand of the seas;**

he let them fall within their camp,

**all around their dwellings.**

And they ate and were well filled,

**for he gave them what they craved.**

## **READING – Ephesians 4:1-16**

I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace: there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all. But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high, he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people."

(When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) He himself granted that some are apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming; but speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

*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 6:24-35**

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

So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus. When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me not because you saw signs but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.” Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?” Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us, then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’ ” Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.” Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

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

**SERMON – Rev. Gail Heidtke**

## **SONG: Break Now the Bread of Life, ELW #515**

*(Printed on bulletin insert or in hymnal)*

Break now the bread of life, dear Lord to me,  
as once you broke the loaves beside the sea.

Beyond the sacred page, I see you, Lord:

My spirit waits for you, O living Word.

Bless your own word of truth, dear Lord, to me,  
as when you blessed the bread by Galilee.

Then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall;

And I shall find my peace, my All-in-All!

You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,  
your holy word the truth that rescues me.

Give me to eat and live with you above;

Teach me to love your truth, for you are love.

## **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.

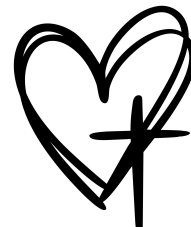
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,

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.



**All Welcome at Communion**  
Single-serve kits in first tray  
Bread and wine next  
Choose as you feel comfortable

### 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 receive Communion or you may request a blessing. You are also welcome to remain in your seat to pray. Welcome!

**Today we will offer both single-serving Communion kits as well as a traditional distribution of bread and wine. Please choose as you feel comfortable.**

**Single-serving kits are available in the first tray.** Select a sealed cup and bring it back to your seat to open and partake. Once at your seat, peel back the top layer to find the wafer, and then the bottom seal to drink. An usher will offer a basket to collect the empty container.

**If you would like Traditional Communion,** select an empty cup from the second tray and come forward to Pastor Heidtke, who will place a piece of bread into your open hand. The assistant will then pour wine into your cup. Your empty cup may be placed in the trays at each side as you return to your seat. 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: O Living Bread from Heaven, ELW #542**

*Printed on bulletin insert or in hymnal*

O living Bread from heaven, how well you feed your guest!

The gifts that you have given have filled my heart with rest.

O wondrous food of blessing! O cup that heals our woes!

My heart, this gift possessing, in thankful song o'erflows!

My Savior, you have led me within your holiest place,  
and here yourself have fed me with treasures of your grace:  
for you have freely given what earth could never buy,  
the bread of life from heaven, that now I shall not die.

You gave me all I wanted; this food can death destroy.

and you have freely granted the cup of endless joy.

My Lord, I do not merit the favor you have shown,

and all my soul and spirit bow down before your throne.

Oh, grant me then, well-strengthened with heavenly food, while here  
my course on earth is lengthened, to serve you, free from fear;  
and bring me home to praise you where none can peace destroy,  
where I will ever raise you glad songs in endless joy.

### **DISMISSAL**

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

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Please Help Move Furniture** for cleaning – today after worship, Tuesday & Friday TBD
- **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.
- **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!
- **God's Work. Our Hands.** – Sunday, September 8. Activity TBD!
- **Caring Hands** – Meetings break for summer, but work continues – reach out if you would like patterns. Tentative next date – September 21. ([CaringHandsVernonHills@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://CoolMinistries.org))
- **Scouting America Troop 273** – Thank you for supporting our partner Scouts as they have supported us. **Looking to restart Cub Scout Pack 273!** Families with kids age K through 4th grade are encouraged to reach out to Theresa ([tcalabrese98@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://ChristLutheranVH.org). Thank you.