

# Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church & Preschool September 22, 2024

## 18th Sunday after Pentecost

**Rev. Melissa Dailey** (they/them)

*Website: [ChristLutheranVH.org](http://ChristLutheranVH.org)*

*Twitter: [@ChristLuthVH](https://twitter.com/ChristLuthVH)*

*Facebook: [/ChristLutheranVH](https://www.facebook.com/ChristLutheranVH)*

Church: 847-367-5787  
[ChristLutheranVH@aol.com](mailto:ChristLutheranVH@aol.com)

Preschool: 847-367-5791  
[CLCPreschool@aol.com](mailto:CLCPreschool@aol.com)

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: All Are Welcome, ELW #641**

*(Printed on bulletin insert or in hymnal)*

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live;  
A place where saints and children tell, how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions; Rock of faith and vault of grace;  
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions:  
All are welcome! All are welcome! All are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true;  
Where all God's children dare to seek, to dream God's reign anew.  
Here the cross shall stand as witness, and a symbol of God's grace:  
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:  
All are welcome! All are welcome! All are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where love is found, in water, wine and wheat:  
A banquet hall on holy ground, where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space:  
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us:  
All are welcome! All are welcome! All are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach, beyond the wood and stone;  
To heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the World they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger, bear the image of God's face;  
Let us bring an end to fear and danger:  
All are welcome! All are welcome! All are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard,  
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed, as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace;  
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:  
All are welcome! All are welcome! All are welcome in this place.

## **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 our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may work in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **READING – Jeremiah 11:18-20**

It was the Lord who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their deeds. But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying, “Let us destroy the tree with its fruit; let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!” But you, O Lord of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.”

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

## **RESPONSIVE READING – Psalm 54**

Save me, O God, by your name,  
**and vindicate me by your might.**

Hear my prayer, O God;  
**give ear to the words of my mouth.**

For the insolent have risen against me; the ruthless seek my life;  
**they do not set God before them.**

But surely, God is my helper;  
**the Lord is the upholder of my life.**

He will repay my enemies for their evil.  
**In your faithfulness, put an end to them.**

With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you;  
**I will give thanks to your name, O Lord, for it is good.**

For he has delivered me from every trouble,  
**and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.**

## **READING – James 3:13 through 4:3, 7-8a**

Who is wise and knowledgeable among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. You ask and do not receive because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

*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 – Mark 9:30-37**

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

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. (*Jesus*) did not want anyone to know it, for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.” But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” Then he took a little child and put it among them, and taking it in his arms he said to them, “Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

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

## **SERMON – Rev. Melissa Dailey**

## **SONG: I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light, ELW #815**

*(On bulletin insert or in hymnal)*

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.

In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord, Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father.

In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord, Jesus.

I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus.

In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord, Jesus.

## **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.

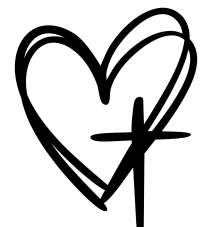
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,

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.*



## **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.

## **BENEDICTION**

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you.

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

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

## **SONG: Jesus Loves Me!, ELW 595**

*(Printed on bulletin insert or in hymnal)*

Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so:

Little ones to him belong; They are weak, but he is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me.

Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! He who died heaven's gates are open wide:

He will wash away my sin, let his little child come in.

Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me.

Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so.

Jesus love see! He will stay close beside me all the way:

When at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me.

Yes, Jesus loves me. The Bible tells me so.

## **DISMISSAL**

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

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Vernon Township Pantry** – The shelves are empty! The VT Pantry is looking for any nonperishable, unexpired food items. Thank you.
- **Thank you – God’s Work. Our Hands.** – On September 8 we packed 28 Birthday Cake Celebration Kits and more than 20 bags of canned goods, each with a new can opener. Thank you for your assistance!
- **Caring Hands** – Saturday, October 19 and November 16 from 9a to noon. Making prayer shawls, comfort blankets, hats/mittens. ([CaringHandsVernonHills@gmail.com](mailto:CaringHandsVernonHills@gmail.com))
- **Scouting!** – Children/families ages Kindergarten through high school have an opportunity to build skills and have fun through Scouting. Please share that Interested families can reach out to Holly or Bill Jones ([committee.chair@pack273vh.org](mailto:committee.chair@pack273vh.org)) to learn more. For boys and girls. Thanks for supporting our Scouting America Troop 273!
- **PreSchool Underway** – Please keep the children, families and staff of Christ Lutheran PreSchool in your prayers.
- **Thank you to our Lawn Team** – Bill, Holly, Theresa, Bob, Tom, Kathy and others. Reach out if you would like to help. Thank you.
- **Support for Anelly** – Our ministry partner Anelly, a young mother of two who has supported refugees in Chicago, has a recurrence of cancer and other challenges. Please lift her in prayer and consider supporting the Meal Train ([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 Pdraig’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** – Call for 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))
- **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.