Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church & Preschool

November 8, 2026

24th Sunday after Pentecost

Lay Leader Sunday

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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.

CHIMES

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRAYER CONCERNS, THANKSGIVINGS

After chimes, Kathy Davis will take requests to add to the 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: Great is Thy Faithfulness, #733 (vs 1 & 3)

Printed on bulletin insert or in hymnal

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father.
There is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changes not, thy compassions, they fail not.
As thou has been thou forever wilt be.

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow;
blessings all mine with ten thousand beside!

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

READING – Amos 5:18-24

Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord It is darkness, not light, as if someone fled from a lion and was met by a bear or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall and was bitten by a snake.

Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them, and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. But let justice roll down like water and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

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

SONG: When Peace Like a River, #785 (vs 1 & 4)

Printed on bulletin insert or in hymnal

When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll, whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.

It is well (it is well), with my soul, (with my soul).
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
the trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;
Even so it is well with my soul.

It is well (it is well), with my soul, (with my soul).
It is well, it is well with my soul.

READING – Wisdom 6:12-16

Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate. To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths and meets them in every thought.

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

RESPONSIVE READING – Psalm 70

Be pleased, O God, to deliver me.
O Lord, make haste to help me!

Let those be put to shame and confusion who seek my life.
Let those be turned back and brought to dishonor
who desire to hurt me.

Let those who say, “Aha, Aha!”
turn back because of their shame.

Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you.
Let those who love your salvation say evermore, “God is great!”

But I am poor and needy;
hasten to me, O God!

You are my help and my deliverer;
O Lord, do not delay!

SONG: Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound, #779

Printed on bulletin insert or in hymnal

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind but now I see.

’Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come.
’Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

When we’ve been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we’ve no less days to sing God’s praise, than when we’d first begun.

READING – 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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 – Matthew 25:1-13

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

(Jesus said,) “Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. Later the other young women came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

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

SONG: 10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord), *by Matt Redman*

(Printed on bulletin insert or in hymnal)

Bless the Lord, O my soul. O my soul. Worship His Holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul. I'll worship Your Holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning.
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me…
let me be singing when the evening comes. **Bless the Lord…**

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger.
Your name is great and Your heart is kind.
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing…
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. **Bless the Lord…**

And on that day when my strength is failing.
The end draws near and my time has come.
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending…
Ten thousand years and then forever more.

Bless the Lord, O my soul. O my soul. Worship His Holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul. I'll worship Your Holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul. I'll worship Your Holy name.

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)*

God, in your mercy… ***hear our prayer.***

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 us and keep you.
May the Lord's face shine on us and be gracious to us.
May the Lord look upon us with favor and give us peace.
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SONG: Blessed Assurance, ELW #638

(Printed on bulletin insert or in hymnal)

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

This is my story, this is my song.
Praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song.
Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight.
Angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. **This is my story…**

Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest.
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with his goodness, lost in his love. **This is my story**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Thank you for your presence! And thank you, lay leaders.

Please enjoy refreshments and conversation.

Please take a moment to greet and introduce yourself to our worship partners of South Lake

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Scout Pancakes – Saturday, November 14 from 8 to 11 a.m. at Hawthorn South.** Come enjoy pancakes, activities, raffles and more. Proceeds support local young people so all can participate fully in a range of Scouting activities. For info, committee.chair@pack273vh.org.
- **PreSchool Fundraiser** – Pasta and Lou Malnati's Pizza Certificates, good for a take-and-bake pizza. Learn more by emailing info@preschool.christlutheranvh.org.
- **We Welcome South Lake Chinese Christian Church** – We worship at 9:30 a.m. while South Lake offers education time; South Lake worships at 11. South Lake invites us to worship and fellowship, noting that their first Worship of the month is a Chinese/English service.
- **First Communion and Other Opportunities –** If you or your family are interested in learning more about Holy Communion, Confirmation, Baptism or other topics, we welcome you to reach out to *ChristLutheranVH@aol.com.*
- **We Pray for Our Confirmands** – Lift up McKenzie W., Brody D and the other students who were confirmed on October 25 by Pastor Chris Neptun at Holy Cross, which hosted a Confirmation class for five students.
- **PreSchool** – Keep the families and staff in your prayers. Programs starting at age 2.5. Learn more at PreSchool.ChristlutheranVH.org or email info@PreschoolChristLutheranVH.org
- **Meals in a Bag** – 2 gal ziplocks with all the nonperishable ingredients needed to make a hearty meal – bags and ingredient list/recipe cards available in the Narthex or on our website. We will provide these as needed and encourage everyone to have a couple to hand out.
- **Stock the Pantries! – Non-Perishables Needed.** Bring your donations of nonperishable food, paper goods, hygiene supplies, etc. and we will deliver to local pantries, which need all they help they can get. Also collecting fresh milk, eggs, meat, produce for specific families.Thanks!
- **Sue's Pantry** – Sue has moved her pantry to a space in Arlington Heights. We will continue to collect anything needed to keep a home and family clean. Special request for rice, pasta, Mac & cheese, tuna, canned chicken, and zip lock bags with after-school snacks.
- **Alert Whistles & Rights Cards** – On the bulletin table. To use or share as needed.
- **Donating to Victims of Flood, Earthquake, Fire, Drought, War** – ELCA's Lutheran Disaster Response is one of the oldest, most effective and most respected organizations for getting money where it can be put to good use. Donate at ELCA.org.
- **Scouting! – Keep our Scouts in Prayer** – Please keep the youth and adults in your prayers. Christ Lutheran is the Charter Organization for Pack 273 & Troop 273. Programs for girls and boys ages Kindergarten through high school, building skills, making connections and having fun. Younger kids: committee.chair@Pack273VH.org. For older kids, email committeechair@troop273vh.net. Thanks to Holly & Bill Jones and their volunteers for their efforts in leading the groups. Thanks for supporting our Pack/Troop 273!
- **Love INC** – Housewares, nonperishables and volunteers. Know a family in need of a bundle of clothes or housewares? Give the details to Natalie! (https://loveinclakecounty.org/)
- **COOL Ministries** – We support the COOL pantry in Waukegan with non-perishables. Collection bins in hallway or give online. (CoolMinistries.org)
- **Prayer concerns?** Consider reaching out so that our network of Prayer Warriors can pray. You may remain anonymous. Email ChristLutheranVH@aol.com with your request. Would you join with us in prayer? Send an email to be included on the prayer mailing list. The task is simple-but-powerful – when time permits, open the email and read/pray with us.
- **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.** Thank you for being part of this community of faith. If you would like to support our service, 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!