



Welcome to worship at Spirit of Christ!

We are a member congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. We gather here as the living body of Jesus Christ to be nourished and empowered by the Holy Spirit in what we call the “Means of Grace” — God’s gifts of Word and Sacrament. Through these Means of Grace, we receive the promise of the Gospel: that in the Spirit of Christ God forgives us, remakes us, and reigns in us. May the Lord bless your worship today!

July 9, 2023

Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

Welcome

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

LSB 849

- 1 Praise the One who breaks the darkness
With a liberating light;
Praise the One who frees the pris’ners,
Turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the Gospel,
Healing ev’ry dread disease,
Calming storms, and feeding thousands
With the very Bread of peace.

- 2 Praise the One who blessed the children
With a strong, yet gentle, word;
Praise the One who drove out demons
With the piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the One who brings cool water
To the desert’s burning sand;
From this Well comes living water,
Quenching thirst in ev’ry land.

- 3 Let us praise the Word Incarnate,
Christ, who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose victorious
That we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness,
Seeing what our God has done;
Let us praise the true Redeemer,
Praise the One who makes us one.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- P** We begin our worship in the name of the Father, of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Romans 7:13-25

- P** We know that the law is holy.
- C** **But I am not. I have been sold to be a slave of sin.**
- P** I don't understand what I do.
- C** **I don't do what I want to do. Instead, I do what I hate to do.**
- P** I do what I don't want to do. So I agree that the law is good. As it is, I am no longer the one who does these things. It is sin living in me that does them.
- C** **I know there is nothing good in my sinful nature.**
- P** I want to do what is good, but I can't.
- C** **I don't do the good things I want to do. I keep on doing the evil things I don't want to do.**
- P** I do what I don't want to do. But I am not really the one who is doing it. It is sin living in me. Here is the law I find working in me. When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. Deep inside me I find joy in God's law. But I see another law working in the parts of my body. It fights against the law of my mind. It makes me a prisoner of the law of sin. That law controls the parts of my body.
- C** **What a miserable person I am! Who will save me from this sin that brings death to my body?**

We take time in silence to confess our personal and communal sin before God, confident that we will receive forgiveness.

- P** I give thanks to God. He will do it through Jesus Christ our Lord. God was not content to have sin be the death of us or death the end of us. Instead, Jesus the Messiah becomes our end and our new beginning, and Jesus the Messiah becomes the death of death and the Word of life. In his stead and by his command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Who has delivered you from your body of death?
- C** **Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!**

Sharing of the Peace

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** We share Christ's peace with one another.

The people greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you and serve you, through your Son, Jesus, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

Sit

First Reading

Zechariah 9:9-12

⁹ Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion!

Shout, Daughter Jerusalem!

See, your king comes to you,
righteous and victorious,
lowly and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

¹⁰ I will take away the chariots from Ephraim
and the warhorses from Jerusalem,
and the battle bow will be broken.

He will proclaim peace to the nations.
His rule will extend from sea to sea
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

¹¹ As for you, because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will free your prisoners from the waterless pit.

¹² Return to your fortress, you prisoners of hope;
even now I announce that I will restore twice as much to you.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Romans 7:15-25a

¹⁵ I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. ¹⁶ And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good.

¹⁷ As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. ¹⁸ For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.

²¹ So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. ²² For in my inner being I delight in God's law; ²³ but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. ²⁴ What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!

So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in my sinful nature a slave to the law of sin.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 205

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ,
The Son of God.**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the eleventh chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁶ “To what can I compare this generation? They are like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling out to others:

¹⁷ “‘We played the pipe for you,
and you did not dance;

we sang a dirge,

and you did not mourn.’

¹⁸ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’

¹⁹ The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.’ But wisdom is proved right by her deeds.”

²⁵ At that time Jesus said, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. ²⁶ Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.

²⁷ “All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸ “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

P This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

LSB 851

**1 Lord of glory, you have bought us
With your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones
That tremendous sacrifice;
And with that have freely given**

Blessings countless as the sand
To the_unthankful and the evil
With your own unsparing hand.

2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you
Gladly, freely of your own.
With the sunshine of your goodness
Melt our thankless hearts of stone
Till our cold and selfish natures,
Warmed by you, at length believe
That more happy and more blessed
'Tis to give than to receive.

3 Wondrous honor you have given
To our humblest charity
In your own mysterious sentence,
"You have done it all to Me."
Can it be, O gracious Master,
That you deign for alms to sue,
Saying by your poor and needy,
"Give as I have giv'n to you"?

4 Lord of glory, you have bought us
With your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones
That tremendous sacrifice.
Give us faith to trust you boldly,
Hope, to stay our souls on you;
But, oh, best of all your graces,
With Your love our love renew.

Homily

Stand

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven

**and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence 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.**

Sit

Prayers of the Church

P Let us lift our hearts, hands, and voices in prayer to God on behalf of all people.

A brief silence is kept.

Dear Father, thank you for the gift of Jesus. Thank you for soul's refreshment and heart's ease; for mind's nourishment and body's rest. Thank you for the countless blessings we so often take for granted. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Grant that your Church should always be as gentle and lowly of heart as its Savior. Use it to draw people who are burdened by sin, suffering, and sorrow to the one who will give them rest. Let the church's mission – faith toward you and fervent love toward others – be a light and joyous burden to bear. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Give encouragement and respite to your persecuted Church. Help us, who are richly supplied with your good gifts, to share generously with them. Teach us to pray for them and to speak and act on their behalf. Give us, and them, grace to pray for their tormentors to repent and believe the Good News. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Thank you for this congregation. Help us to see others through Jesus' eyes. Some are carrying heavy burdens, known only to them and to you. Ease their load. Help us to refresh their spirits. Shape all we say and do, so that many find forgiveness, hope, and renewed joy in loving and serving you. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Thank you for this beautiful world, over which you have set us as your stewards. Let your Holy Spirit guide us to be wise, responsible, and compassionate as we tend the land and its creatures. Help us to enjoy the loveliness of creation, finding in it refreshment for our souls and relaxation for our bodies. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Grant to the people of every nation favorable weather, peaceful times, and respite from the burdens of sickness, poverty, and violence. Teach us all to eagerly seek and share your mercy, guidance, and blessings. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Ease the burdens borne by all who risk their lives to keep us safe, just, and free. Prosper all they do in accordance with your will. Heal those who are wounded, and comfort and strengthen their loved ones. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Give rest and healing to everyone weighed down by sin, sorrow, or suffering. Ease the load of care and worry that their loved ones shoulder. Give to us all the joy of your saving help. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Thank you, dear Father, for our departed loved ones. Until we are reunited with them and with your children of every time and place, bless us with your steadfast mercy and loving-kindness. Yoke us to our Savior, and guide us by his Spirit. Strengthen us to help each other bear the burdens of life. Lead us into the eternal rest and unending joy which you have promised to everyone redeemed by the work of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Hear our prayers, dear Father, through the Spirit who searches our hearts. For the sake of your beloved Son, answer them as may be best for us and give you glory.

C **Amen.**

Presentation of the Offering

Stand

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Sanctus

LSB 208

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

The Words of Our Lord

Lord's Prayer

Agnus Dei

LSB 210

C O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sit

Distribution

We believe that as we partake of the bread and wine in Holy Communion, Jesus the Messiah is feeding us with his own true body and blood. In eating his body and drinking his blood we receive the promise that our sins are forgiven, and that we will therefore live eternally with God. We also believe that this eating and drinking is a confession of our faith. If you have been baptized into the Christian faith and if you share our understanding of Christ's Real Presence in this meal, you are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood for your benefit. If you do not confess the understanding of the Christian Faith as expressed by the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, you may still come to the altar to receive a blessing. Please fold your hands to indicate that you will not be receiving the sacrament.

I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table

LSB 618

1 I come, O Savior, to thy table,
For weak and weary is my soul;
Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able
To satisfy and make me whole: *Refrain*

ref Lord, may thy body and thy blood
Be for my soul the highest good!

2 Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning
That sinners may salvation see
Who, Lord, to thee in faith are turning;
So I, a sinner, come to thee. *Refrain*

3 Unworthy though I am, O Savior,
Because I have a sinful heart,
Yet thou thy lamb wilt banish never,
For thou my faithful shepherd art: *Refrain*

4 Weary am I and heavy laden;
With sin my soul is sore oppressed;
Receive me graciously and gladden
My heart, for I am now thy guest. *Refrain*

5 What higher gift can we inherit?
It is faith's bond and solid base;
It is the strength of heart and spirit,
The covenant of hope and grace. *Refrain*

Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death

LSB 697

1 Awake, O sleeper, rise from death,
And Christ shall give you light;
So learn His love, its length and breadth,
Its fullness, depth, and height.

2 To us on earth He came to bring
From sin and fear release,
To give the Spirit's unity,
The very bond of peace.

3 Then walk in love as Christ has loved,
Who died that He might save;
With kind and gentle hearts forgive
As God in Christ forgave.

4 For us Christ lived, for us He died,
And conquered in the strife;
Awake, arise, go forth in faith,
And Christ shall give you life.

O Holy Spirit, Grant Us Grace

LSB 693 tune 947

1 O Holy Spirit, grant us grace
That we our Lord and Savior
In faith and fervent love embrace
And truly serve him ever.
The hour of death cannot bring loss
When we are sheltered by the cross
That canceled our transgressions.

2 Help us that we thy saving Word
In faithful hearts may treasure;
Let e'er that Bread of Life afford
New grace in richest measure.
O make us die to ev'ry sin,
Each day create new life within,
That fruits of faith may flourish.

3 And when our earthly race is run,
Death's bitter hour impending,
Then may thy work in us begun
Continue till life's ending,
Until we gladly may commend
Our souls into our Savior's hand,
The crown of life obtaining.

Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

LSB 843 tune 846

1 "Forgive our sins as we forgive,"
You taught us, Lord, to pray;
But you alone can grant us grace
To live the words we say.
How can your pardon reach and bless
The unforgiving heart
That broods on wrongs and will not let
Old bitterness depart?

2 In blazing light your cross reveals
The truth we dimly knew:
What trivial debts are owed to us,
How great our debt to you!
Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls
And bid resentment cease;
Then, bound to all in bonds of love,
Our lives will spread your peace.

Stand

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
C Amen.

God of Grace and God of Glory

LSB 850

1 God of grace and God of glory,
On your people pour your pow'r;
Crown your ancient Church's story;
Bring its bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.

2 Lo, the hosts of evil round us
Scorn the Christ, assail his ways!

**From the fears that long have bound us
Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the living of these days,
For the living of these days.**

**3 Cure your children's warring madness;
Bend our pride to your control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
Rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
Lest we miss your kingdom's goal,
Lest we miss your kingdom's goal.**

**4 Save us from weak resignation
To the evils we deplore;
Let the gift of your salvation
Be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Serving you whom we adore,
Serving you whom we adore.**

Announcements

Sending

Serving in worship today

July 9, 2023

Pastor:

Jason Neel

Elder:

Chuck Johnson

Phil Hagel

Reader:

Carl Schwanbeck

Usher:

Randy Herschman

Organist:

Karine Platt

In our prayers

Celebrating Birthdays: Diane Weinhold 7/9, Eli Voegelé 7/10, Peggy Peterson 7/10, Lori Miller 7/13, and Micah Miller 7/13.

Celebrating Baptisms: Grace Zimmerman 7/10, Rita Matheson 7/11, and Nancy Anderson 7/11.

This Week at a Glance

Today	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
	10:30 a.m.	Christian Faith Class
Tuesday	12:15 p.m.	Congregational Prayer
Thursday	7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
	10:30 a.m.	Christian Faith Class

Notes of Information:

Bluegrass Sunday is coming! If you are interested in being a part of the choir for Bluegrass Sunday connect with John. He is currently putting together the music packets. Save the date! Bluegrass Sunday will be held August 27th at 9 am. If you have questions, please see John for details.

VBS needs: VBS is just two weeks away! There is a need board in the Narthex, please return with your items next Sunday. We are still in need of group leaders who are 16 and older and a Kid Vid leader. These roles are very rewarding and important. Group leaders will have a co leader with them to help. If you have

question or are willing to help please connect with Leslie Kuntz at 763-592-9206.

Opportunity to Reduce LCEF Loan: We have been notified by LCEF (Lutheran Church Extension Fund) that we can reduce the amount we need to borrow until early July. If you are moved to give a gift toward the 2023 building project, please consider doing so before July 10th. You can write on your check or on your envelope that the gift is designated for the 2023 Building Improvement Project.

Women's Ministry: Please mark your calendars and plan to attend a SOC Women's Ministry event to be held **Saturday, Sep 30** with a guest speaker connecting spiritual, emotional and physical health. We will be inviting ladies from neighboring congregations to join us and can use your help! If you would like to assist in the advertising, registration, or name tags, please contact Angie Hagel at pahagel@usfamily.net. If you would like to help plan and/or serve a healthy meal, help plan the day's activities, or assist with other aspects of the event, please contact Linda Schwanbeck, Linda McCarty, or Raelene Burmeister.

VBS Registration: Registration is open on the SOC website. Click the button on the top banner of the homepage to get registered to go have a Stellar time with us at VBS this July. Dates for VBS are Sunday, July 23rd to Thursday, July 27th. There is also a QR code in the Narthex on the VBS bulletin board which will take you to the registration page.

Envelope Giving FYI: Gifts given via envelope and marked "Improvement" will go into the 2023 Building Improvement Project Fund. There is also a designated category in Vanco if you prefer to give electronically.

Activity Bags Available: There are activity bags for young children located at the back of the sanctuary. We would like to thank Beth Gerard and Diane 4+Weinhold for refreshing the bags.

Spirit of Christ Book Club: Spirit of Christ Book Club will meet in the fellowship hall at 7 p.m. Dates and books are:

July 24 The Silent Patient by Alex Michaelides

August 28 The Second Life of Mirelle West by Amanda Skenandore

If you have any questions, please contact Joan Mager at 763-434-9652.

NACE: North Anoka County Emergency Food Shelf needs personal hygiene, and diapers for both adults and children. If you would like to donate any of these items, please bring them into the Narthex and place them in the box. Toni Peterson 763-434-5665

LWML Mission Byte: A Healing Space for At-Risk Children — Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, ND \$100,000 The Christ-centered, healing ministry of Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch creates an eternal, life giving, impact in the lives of children, age 10 to 18, who have faced unimaginable trauma. A gap in

spiritual care on the Ranch's Bismarck campus has been a chapel facility specifically designed to be a healing space for traumatized boys and girls. A construction date of Spring 2024 has been set. This grant will help meet the construction costs of the Chapel on the Bismarck campus and provide healing for at-risk children. Please pray for God's hand of provision!

Monthly 1% Mission Outreach: As God's Stewards, we are called to serve. A great way to do this is to apply for the Monthly 1% Mission Outreach offering. Simply fill out a request form, state your outreach ministry, and how the funds will be used. Then return your request to the Stewardship Board. Some past activities have included homeless kits, backpacks for World Relief, diaper kits, shopping for food shelf items, and holiday baskets for families. Be creative! Our Lord will use the talents and gifts He has given you to bless others.

Nursery: The nursery is open, and the sound is working. If you have a restless child, please feel free to use this space.

Sermons and bulletins posted online: Audio and video recordings of worship sermons and digital bulletins are posted weekly. Bulletins and past sermons can be found at www.spiritofchristhamlake.org.

Offerings via Give+: Online giving is easy to do, one-time gifts and recurring donations are accepted. Visit the link at soclc.org to sign up or learn more.

Average Weekly Offering	\$6881
<i>Average offering needed per week to fulfill work plan</i>	<i>\$6662</i>

**Readings for next week:
Isaiah 55:10-13, Romans 8:1-11, Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**



Register for Vacation Bible School and give the QR code you your friends and neighbors so that they can join in our intergalactic fun this summer! Sunday July 23, 2023, to Thursday July 27, 2023, from 6 PM to 8 PM. Free!



SPIRIT of CHRIST
Lutheran Church

2749 NE Bunker Lake Blvd
Ham Lake, MN 55304
www.Spiritofchristhamlake.org

Our Mission: To live in love for God and one another reaching out to all people, proclaiming and sharing the love of Christ.

Church Office: 763-755-7234
Pastor Jason Neel: soclpastor@gmail.com
Ministers: All Members
Music Director
John Peterson: carsinger@aol.com
Office e-mail: secretary@socl.org
Prayer Chain (Sue Hurst): Sd_hurst@yahoo.com
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SpiritofChristLutheran.LCMS>