



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!

October 1, 2023

Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Welcome

Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens

LSB 589

- 1 **Speak, O Lord, your servant listens,
Let your Word to me come near;
Newborn life and spirit give me,
Let each promise still my fear.
Death's dread pow'r, its inward strife,
Wars against your Word of life;
Fill me, Lord, with love's strong fervor
That I cling to you forever!**

- 2 **Oh, what blessing to be near you
And to listen to your voice;
Let me ever love and hear you,
Let your Word be now my choice!
Many hardened sinners, Lord,
Flee in terror at your Word;
But to all who feel sin's burden
You give words of peace and pardon.**

- 3 **Lord, your words are waters living
When my thirsting spirit pleads.
Lord, your words are bread life-giving;
On your words my spirit feeds.
Lord, your words will be my light
Through death's cold and dreary night;
Yes, they are my sword prevailing
And my cup of joy unfailing!**

- 4 **As I pray, dear Jesus, hear me;
Let your words in me take root.
May your Spirit e'er be near me
That I bear abundant fruit.**

**May I daily sing your praise,
From my heart glad anthems raise,
Till my highest praise is given
In the endless joy of heaven.**

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

- P** Jesus Christ is Lord. He has called us to value others above ourselves.
- C** **Yet we often have not acted as his servants, but have valued ourselves above others.**

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

- P** Christ Jesus, though he was in very nature God, made himself nothing. He took the nature of a servant, humbled himself and became obedient to death – even death on a cross. Therefore, God has exalted him – and you. Christ’s death and resurrection eternally reconciles you to God. As a called and ordained servant of the Word made flesh, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Worship in peace.
- C** **Amen. Thanks be to God!**

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** God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C** **Amen**

First Reading

Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32

The word of the LORD came to me: ²“What do you people mean by quoting this proverb about the land of Israel:

“‘The parents eat sour grapes,
and the children’s teeth are set on edge’?”

³“As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, you will no longer quote this proverb in Israel. ⁴For everyone belongs to me, the parent as well as the child—both alike belong to me. The one who sins is the one who will die.

²⁵“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear, you Israelites: Is my way unjust? Is it not your ways that are unjust? ²⁶If a righteous person turns from their righteousness and commits sin, they will die for it; because of the sin they have committed they will die. ²⁷But if a wicked person turns away from the wickedness they have committed and does what is just and right, they will save their life. ²⁸Because they consider all the offenses they have committed and turn away from them, that person will surely live; they will not die. ²⁹Yet the Israelites say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Are my ways unjust, people of Israel? Is it not your ways that are unjust?”

³⁰“Therefore, you Israelites, I will judge each of you according to your own ways, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent! Turn away from all your offenses; then sin will not be your downfall. ³¹Rid yourselves of all the offenses you have committed, and get a new heart and a new spirit. Why will you die, people of Israel? ³²For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent and live!

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Philippians 2:1-13

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, ²then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. ³Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

⁵In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶Who, being in very nature God,

did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

⁷rather, he made himself nothing

by taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.

⁸And being found in appearance as a man,

he humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death—
even death on a cross!

⁹Therefore God exalted him to the highest place

and gave him the name that is above every name,

¹⁰that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,

in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

¹² Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

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 21:23-32

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the twenty-first chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

²³ Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while he was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. “By what authority are you doing these things?” they asked. “And who gave you this authority?”

²⁴ Jesus replied, “I will also ask you one question. If you answer me, I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ²⁵ John’s baptism—where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or of human origin?”

They discussed it among themselves and said, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will ask, ‘Then why didn’t you believe him?’” ²⁶ But if we say, ‘Of human origin’—we are afraid of the people, for they all hold that John was a prophet.”

²⁷ So they answered Jesus, “We don’t know.”

Then he said, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸ “What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work today in the vineyard.’”

²⁹ “‘I will not,’ he answered, but later he changed his mind and went.

³⁰ “Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, ‘I will, sir,’ but he did not go.

³¹ “Which of the two did what his father wanted?”

“The first,” they answered.

Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.

P This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

At the Name of Jesus

- 1 At the name of Jesus
Ev'ry knee shall bow,
Ev'ry tongue confess him
King of glory now.
'Tis the Father's pleasure
We should call him Lord,
Who from the beginning
Was the mighty Word.

- 2 At his voice creation
Sprang at once to sight,
All the angel faces,
All the hosts of light,
Thrones and bright dominions,
Stars upon their way,
All the heav'nly orders
In their great array.

- 3 Humbled for a season,
To receive a name
From the lips of sinners
Unto whom he came,
Faithfully he bore it
Spotless to the last,
Brought it back victorious
When from death he passed;

- 5 In your hearts enthrone him;
There let him subdue
All that is not holy,
All that is not true:
Crown Him as your captain
In temptation's hour;
Let His will enfold you
In its light and pow'r.

- 6 Christians, this Lord Jesus
Shall return again
In his Father's glory,
With his angel train;
For all wreaths of empire
Meet upon his brow,
And our hearts confess him
King of glory now.

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

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.

Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way

LSB 857

- 1 Lord, help us walk your servant way
Wherever love may lead
And, bending low, forgetting self,
Each serve the other's need.
- 2 You came to earth, O Christ, as Lord,
But pow'r you laid aside.
You lived your years in servanthood;
In lowliness you died.
- 3 No golden scepter but a towel
You place within the hands
Of those who seek to follow you
And live by your commands.

4 You bid us bend our human pride
Nor count ourselves above
The lowest place, the meanest task
That waits the gift of love.

5 Lord, help us walk your servant way
Wherever love may lead
And, bending low, forgetting self,
Each serve the other's need.

Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness

LSB 788 tune 878

1 Forgive us, Lord, for shallow thankfulness,
For dull content with warmth and sheltered care,
For songs of praise for food and harvest press,
While of your richer gifts we're unaware:

2 Teach us to thank you, Lord, for love and grace,
For life and vision, for a purpose clear,
For Christ your Son, and for each human face
That shows your message ever new and near.

3 Forgive us, Lord, for selfish thanks and praise,
For words that speak at variance with deeds;
Forgive our thanks for walking pleasant ways
Unmindful of a broken brother's needs:

4 Teach us, O Lord, true thankfulness divine,
That gives as Christ gave, never counting cost,
That knows no barrier of "yours" and "mine,"
Assured that only what's withheld is lost.

5 Forgive us, Lord, for feast that knows not fast,
For joy in things that meanwhile starve the soul,
For walls and wars that hide your mercies vast
And blur our vision of the Kingdom goal:

6 Open our eyes to see your love's intent,
To know with minds and hearts its depth and height;
May thankfulness be days in service spent,
Reflection of Christ's life and love and light.

O Jesus, King Most Wonderful

LSB 554

1 O Jesus, King most wonderful!
O Conqueror renowned!
O Source of peace ineffable,
In whom all joys are found:

- 2 When once you visit darkened hearts,
Then truth begins to shine,
Then earthly vanity departs,
Then kindles love divine.
- 3 O Jesus, light of all below,
The fount of life and fire,
Surpassing all the joys we know,
All that we can desire:
- 4 May ev'ry heart confess your name,
Forever you adore,
And, seeking you, itself inflame
To seek you more and more!
- 5 Oh, may our tongues forever bless,
May we love you alone
And ever in our lives express
The image of your own!

Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread

LSB 625 tune 947

- 1 Lord Jesus Christ, life-giving bread,
May I in grace possess you.
Let me with holy food be fed,
In hunger I address you.
Prepare me well for you, O Lord,
And, humbly by my prayer implored,
Give me your grace and mercy.
- 2 To pastures green, Lord, safely guide,
To restful waters lead me;
Your table well for me provide,
Your wounded hand now feed me.
Though weary, sinful, sick, and weak,
Refuge in you alone I seek,
To share your cup of healing.
- 3 O bread of heav'n, my soul's delight,
For full and free remission
I come with prayer before your sight
In sorrow and contrition.
Your righteousness, Lord, cover me
That I receive you worthily,
Assured of your full pardon.
- 4 I do not merit favor, Lord,
My weight of sin would break me;

In all my guilty heart's discord,
O Lord, do not forsake me.
In my distress this comforts me
That You receive me graciously,
O Christ, my Lord of mercy!

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.

The Saints in Christ Are One in Every Place

LSB 838 tune 917

- 1 The saints in Christ are one in ev'ry place
To serve the Gospel of his costly grace;
From those first days to this, our hope the same:
The love of Christ, one Lord, one saving name.
- 2 In chains for Christ! His pris'ners love to sing,
For slaves and free rejoice to praise our King;
What though the Church on earth still suffers wrong?
The cross of Christ remains our pilgrim song.
- 3 To live is Christ, for us, to die is gain;
Where then shall be our hunger, danger, pain?
Our joy to preach good news to rich and poor,
Then be with Christ, to live forevermore.
- 4 Lord Jesus Christ! Heav'n's praise let earth repeat;
The work that hou began, hou will complete.
By grace let ev'ry foe become hour friend;
Your day, O Christ, shall dawn and never end.

Announcements

Sending

Serving in worship today

October 1, 2023

Pastor:

Jason Neel

Elder:

Phil Hagel
Wayne Chambard

Reader:

Phil Marquardt

Usher:

Randy Herschman

In our prayers

Celebrating Birthdays: Jeff Fey 10/1, Kris Mathiason 10/2, Valerie Anderson 10/3, Ryan Williams 10/4, and Julia Gunderson 10/5

Celebrating Baptismal Birthdays: Eric Gunderson 10/5 and Wes Spadgenske 10/5.

Celebrating Anniversaries: Jim and Cassie Weinhold 10/7.

This Week at a Glance

Today	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	6:00 p.m.	Sunday Night Bible Study
Tuesday	10:30 a.m.	Women's Bible Study
	6:30 p.m.	Youth Board Meeting
Wednesday	12:15 p.m.	Congregational Prayer
	6:00 p.m.	Confirmation
Thursday	7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Choir
Saturday	9:00 a.m.	Fall Church Clean Up
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	6:00 p.m.	Sunday Night Bible Study

Notes of Information:

Women's Bible Study and Meeting: Please join us for our monthly women's Bible Study. This month Renee Chambard will be leading "Sisters of the Heart." Following the bible study there will be a meeting all women who are involved in ministry are encouraged to attend. Please feel free to bring a lunch.

Fall Church Clean-Up: Everyone is invited on Saturday October 7th to WASH CHURCH WINDOWS! We will begin at 9:00. Please bring rags if possible the rest of the supplies will be provided. If we get a good turnout we can even do some inside cleaning! Any questions contact Beth Gerard at 612-328-2324.

Women's Coffee Group: Wednesday Morning Coffee. Ladies of SOC please join us on October 18th at 10:00 am in the Fellowship for our SECOND meeting of the "Wednesday Morning Coffee Ladies". This month we will be making "Prayer Journals". Please join us for a little crafting or just for Coffee and good conversation. Any question contact Beth Gerard at 612-328-2324

Notes for the Library: Grace Under Pressure: Responding Faithfully to Stress Author: Christopher M. Kennedy Age: Adult

Life can be hard! Circumstances press upon our sinful nature and push us over the edge. We express God-given feelings in ungodly ways. With God's help we can respond gracefully to life's stressful moments. Pastor Kennedy identifies the pressures and temptations we often feel today. Using scripture as well as Christ's seven last words from the cross he helps us find grace and strength for a Gospel-driven way to deal with our daily challenges. *Grace Under Pressure* a scripture based, easy to read, and relatable guide that encourages us look to the cross, living our lives as a response to our Savior. Jesus sustains us with grace that propels us forward. Discussion questions at the end of each chapter can be used for individual study or group discussion.

Carpet Cleaning: Thank you to the very diligent volunteer who works hard to keep our carpets clean. Please be mindful of your beverages and remember that this is the Lord's house.

Notes from the Kitchen: Thank you to all who helped clean the kitchen recently. Please label and date all items that are placed in the refrigerator and freezer. If items are not labeled, they will be thrown away. If you have borrowed a roaster recently, please return it to the kitchen. Beth Gerard has volunteered to serve as the kitchen coordinator. If you have questions or requests, please contact Beth at 612-328-2324.

Reserving Church Space: To keep the calendar as up to date as possible, it is important to let the office know when you are using church space for meetings, events and set up of events, so that they can be put onto the calendar. The calendar will be set using a first come, first served basis. The only exception to this policy is if a funeral is held. Please email the church office with your scheduling needs at secretary@soclc.org.

Nursery Staff and Greeters Needed: We need volunteers to greet people at the door and provide hospitality prior to worship service and volunteers to staff the

nursery during a part of worship service. If you are interested in serving in either of these roles, please reach out to Kevin Zimmerman.

Trunk or Treat: The youth will be hosting the 3rd annual SOC Trunk or Treat event on Saturday, October 28th from 4 PM to 6:00 PM. The youth need your help to make this event a success. We need volunteers to decorate their trunks and provide treats for our visitors. Other volunteer opportunities are an adult to supervise the bonfire and characters to perform scripted acts on the Reformation Trail. If you are interested in helping with this event, please reach out to Raelene Burmeister 763-229-4112

NACE: North Anoka County Emergency Food Shelf needs cereal and boxed side such as Mac and Cheese, Rice a Roni, potatoes, and pasta. They need clean lightly used winter coats. If you would like to donate, please bring items into the Narthex, and place them in the box. For more information reach out to Toni Peterson at 763-434-5665

SOC Women: We've been invited to a Mission Impossible Event: "The Upside-Down Mission to the Lost in the Mountains of Southeast Asia." It is hosted by the Gathering Place Lutheran Ministries in Arden Hills.
WHEN: Saturday, October 14th, 2023, 9:00 - 11:30 AM \$10.00 lunch included. I'll be driving and can provide a ride if needed. Please let me know if you are interested. Linda Schwanbeck 651-508-1680

Thrivent Choice Dollars: If you are eligible, you can specifically choose an organization, such as Spirit of Christ Lutheran Church. Choice Dollars designated during the calendar year can be directed until March 31 of the following year. To direct those dollars, log onto <http://www.thrivent.com>. Under **What We Offer**, choose the **Generosity** tab. Then choose **Choice Dollars**.

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

October 23 *Killers of the Flower Moon* by David Grann

November 27 *Kitchen House* by Kathleen Grissom

December The book club does not meet.

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

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	\$5901
<i>Average offering needed per week to fulfill work plan</i>	\$6662

**Readings for next week:
Isaiah 5:1-7, Philippians 3:4b-14, Matthew 21:33-46**



SPIRIT of CHRIST
Lutheran Church

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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.

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Ministers: All Members

Music Director

John Peterson: carsinger@aol.com

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