





# 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!

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September 10, 2023

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost

## Welcome

### *Lord, This Day We've Come to Worship*

*LSB 911 tune 848*

- 1 Lord, this day we've come to worship;  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
Grace us with your blessed presence;  
Blessèd Savior, be our host.  
In the pow'r of resurrection  
We have come to praise the Lord,  
Celebrate his blessed supper,  
And to learn his holy Word.**
  
- 2 May your Word enrich our spirit,  
Give us strength to do your will,  
Show the kingdom we'll inherit,  
When at last our voice is still.  
As we meet our blessed Savior  
At the Table of the Lord,  
May this body broken for us  
Strength and comfort, Lord, afford.**
  
- 3 Celebrate the resurrection  
In the church and sing his praise,  
Till we come to true perfection:  
Serve the Lord through all our days.  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
Alleluia, praise the Lord!  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
Alleluia, praise the Lord!**

*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 has forgiven all our sins---great and small.

**C** **We confess that we have failed to fathom the greatness of God's mercy. We have not freely forgiven the people who have sinned against us. We have thought their faults to be greater than our own and forgotten that we are totally reliant on God's grace for our salvation. Forgive us, gracious Lord, and give us new and contrite hearts; fill us with your love divine.**

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

**P** God in Christ does not forget his promise of abundant life including victory over sin, death, and the power of the devil. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ and by his authority I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**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** O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** **Amen**

*Sit*

## First Reading

*Ezekiel 33:7-11*

<sup>7</sup>“Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup>When I say to the wicked, ‘You wicked person, you will surely die,’ and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. <sup>9</sup>But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from

their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved.

<sup>10</sup> “Son of man, say to the Israelites, ‘This is what you are saying: “Our offenses and sins weigh us down, and we are wasting away because of them. How then can we live?”’” <sup>11</sup> Say to them, ‘As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, people of Israel?’

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Second Reading

*Romans 13:8-14*

<sup>8</sup> Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup> The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” “You shall not covet,” and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>10</sup> Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

<sup>11</sup> And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup> The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. <sup>13</sup> Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

**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 18:15-20*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the eighteenth chapter.

**C** Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>15</sup> “If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. <sup>16</sup> But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ <sup>17</sup> If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

<sup>18</sup> “Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

<sup>19</sup> “Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup>For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

**P** This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

*Sit*

### *Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive*

*LSB 843 tune 697*

- 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.
- 2 How can your pardon reach and bless  
The unforgiving heart  
That broods on wrongs and will not let  
Old bitterness depart?
- 3 In blazing light your cross reveals  
The truth we dimly knew:  
What trivial debts are owed to us,  
How great our debt to you!
- 4 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.

### **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.*

### ***Love in Christ Is Strong and Living***

*LSB 706 tune 427*

- 1 Love in Christ is strong and living,  
Binding faithful hearts in one;  
Love in Christ is true and giving.  
May his will in us be done.**
  
- 2 Love is patient and forbearing,  
Clothed in Christ's humility,  
Gentle, selfless, kind, and caring,  
Reaching out in charity.**
  
- 3 Love in Christ abides forever,  
Fainting not when ills attend;  
Love, forgiving and forgiven,  
Shall endure until life's end.**

### ***Where Charity and Love Prevail***

*LSB 845*

- 1 Where charity and love prevail  
There God is ever found;  
Brought here together by Christ's love  
By love are we thus bound.**
  
- 2 With grateful joy and holy fear  
His charity we learn;  
Let us with heart and mind and soul  
Now love him in return.**
  
- 3 Forgive we now each other's faults  
As we our faults confess,  
And let us love each other well  
In Christian holiness.**

4 Let strife among us be unknown;  
Let all contention cease;  
Be God's the glory that we seek;  
Be ours his holy peace.

5 Let us recall that in our midst  
Dwells Christ, his only Son;  
As members of his body joined  
We are in him made one.

6 For love excludes no race or clan  
That names the Savior's name;  
His family embraces all  
Whose Father is the same.

*Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace*

LSB 844

1 Lord of all nations, grant me grace  
To love all people, ev'ry race;  
And in each person may I see  
My kindred, loved, redeemed by thee.

2 Break down the wall that would divide  
Thy children, Lord, on ev'ry side.  
My neighbor's good let me pursue;  
Let Christian love bind warm and true.

3 Forgive me, Lord, where I have erred  
By loveless act and thoughtless word.  
Make me to see the wrong I do  
Will grieve my wounded Lord anew.

4 Give me thy courage, Lord, to speak  
Whenever strong oppress the weak.  
Should I myself the victim be,  
Help me forgive, rememb'ring thee.

5 With thine own love may I be filled  
And by thy Holy Spirit willed,  
That all I touch, where'er I be,  
May be divinely touched by thee.

*My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

LSB 702

1 My faith looks up to thee,  
Thou Lamb of Calvary,  
Savior divine.  
Now hear me while I pray;  
Take all my guilt away;

O let me from this day  
Be wholly thine!

2 May thy rich grace impart  
Strength to my fainting heart;  
My zeal inspire!  
As thou hast died for me,  
Oh, may my love to thee  
Pure, warm, and changeless be,  
A living fire!

3 While life's dark maze I tread  
And griefs around me spread,  
Be thou my guide;  
Bid darkness turn to day,  
Wipe sorrow's tears away,  
Nor let me ever stray  
From thee aside.

4 When ends life's transient dream,  
When death's cold, sullen stream  
Shall o'er me roll,  
Blest Savior, then, in love,  
Fear and distrust remove;  
O bear me safe above,  
A ransomed soul!

*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.

## *Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

*LSB 975*

- 1 **Blest be the tie that binds**  
**Our hearts in Christian love;**  
**The fellowship of kindred minds**  
**Is like to that above.**
- 2 **Before our Father's throne**  
**We pour our ardent prayers;**  
**Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,**  
**Our comforts and our cares.**

- 3** We share our mutual woes,  
Our mutual burdens bear,  
And often for each other flows  
The sympathizing tear.
- 4** When here our pathways part,  
We suffer bitter pain;  
Yet, one in Christ and one in heart,  
We hope to meet again.
- 5** From sorrow, toil, and pain,  
And sin we shall be free  
And perfect love and friendship reign  
Through all eternity.

## **Announcements**

## **Sending**

# Serving in worship today

September 10, 2023

**Pastor:**

Jason Neel

**Elder:**

Phil Marquardt

Kevin Zimmerman

**Reader:**

Betsy Will

**Organist:**

Karine Platt

**Usher:**

Jan Fuerst

## In our prayers

**Celebrating Birthdays:** Eddie Kotherade 9/10 and Toni Peterson 9/11.

**Celebrating Anniversaries:** Storm and Ashly Parson 9/10

### This Week at a Glance

Today	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Ministry Fair
	11:30 a.m.	Bible Burning
	12:00 p.m.	Rally Day Picnic
Wednesday	12:15 p.m.	Congregational Prayer
	6:00 p.m.	Youth Board Meeting (offsite)
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.	Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	11:30 a.m.	Middle School Youth Group

### Notes of Information:

**Rally Day!** Today is Rally Day! This is the day that we celebrate a new year of Sunday School, Adult Bible Study, and fellowship with one another. Please join us for our Ministry Fair, find out about all the opportunities for fellowship, missions, and service here at Spirit of Christ. Following the Ministry Fair, we will have a Bible Burning ceremony and then a wonderful picnic lunch provided by the Church Council and various boards at 12. Please join us in our

celebration of our community.

**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

**Bible Burning:** The proper way to dispose of a Bible that is beginning to fall apart is either to burn or to bury it. As part of our Rally Day celebration, we will have a time of Bible burning, giving thanks for the way God's word has served us and acknowledging our continued trust in it. If you have bibles in your homes that need disposal, please bring them on Sunday.

**Parking Lot Construction:** The parking lot will be paved starting Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup>. We will not be able to drive on the new asphalt until Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. If you need to access the church during the week, please use the west entrance (before the SOC sign) and park in the grass. For the remainder of the Fall, we will be able to drive in the parking lot but please take care not to rotate your tires while parked or backing out and to minimize high heels and other things that could penetrate the asphalt. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the church office.

**New Sunday Night Bible Study:** Beginning on September 17<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Jason will be leading a new bible study. He will be using the book *Death, Heaven, Resurrection, and The New Creation* by Kent Bureson and Beth Hoeltke. Books will be available on Rally Day at the Board of Education booth. The bible study will run seven weeks and will meet from 6 p.m. to 7:30. The cost of the book is \$16.

**Youth Group:** On September 17, following education hour, Middle School Youth Group will hold their first event. If you are a sixth through eighth grade, please plan on staying with us for lunch and a fun-filled afternoon.

**Women's Ministry Event:** On Saturday, Sep 30, Brandy McCoid, a Christian Health Coach will speak about Connecting Spiritual, Emotional & Physical Health as she talks about whole body wellness being individual and unique to each person, encompassing more than what we eat and the moving of our bodies. Please invite friends and family to join you for the educational presentation and a fun filled morning of fellowship, activities, and a healthy meal. Please sign up on the sheet below the Women's Ministry board in the fellowship hall. \$7 per person may be paid the day of the event.

**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**.

**Shredright4Good Youth Fundraiser:** Every day, America uses enough paper to wrap around the earth 20 times! Why not put some of that paper to work raising funds for Spirit of Christ's Youth while protecting the environment and your identity. The Youth have two locked containers here at church to collect confidential paper. Shredright4Good will pick it up to shred and turn it to recycled paper products. Nice and easy, just bring in your freewill offering with your paper. Start protecting your identity, the environment and building up the Youth of Spirit of Christ. We thank you for your support.

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

September 25 *Me Before You* by JoJo Moyes

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

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

**LWML Mission Byte:** Based on the Biblical account of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1-4), the Mite Box is intended for regular contributions of "mites" — offerings above and beyond the support given to congregations and the LCMS. Mite Box contributions amount to millions of dollars that fund district and national mission grants and implement the LWML program. The LWML mission grant highlighted this week was awarded in the amount of \$50,000 to Equipping Young Leaders- LCMS Youth Ministry.

**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](http://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](http://soclc.org) to sign up or learn more.

Average Weekly Offering	\$5977
<i>Average offering needed per week to fulfill work plan</i>	\$6662

**Readings for next week:  
Genesis 50:15-21, Romans 14:1-12, Matthew 18:21-35**

 Spirit of Christ—Ham Lake Women's Ministry   
Invites you and your friends to join us at our  
Fall Gathering

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2023**

**9:30 AM—12:30 PM**  
(REGISTRATION 9:30-10:00)

**\$7 PER PERSON**

**GUEST SPEAKER:**

**Brandy McCoid—Christian Health Coach**  
Connecting Spiritual, Emotional, and Physical Health

Fun activities and a healthy lunch will be part of the event.  
We look forward to having you and your friends join us for a  
morning of fun and fellowship!

**To assist the planning committee, if possible,  
please register by Sep 23, 2023 by contacting  
Angie Hagel at 612-472-5109  
or email: [pahagel@usfamily.net](mailto:pahagel@usfamily.net)  
and let us know how many will be joining you.**

**Spirit of Christ—Ham Lake**  
2749 Bunker Lake Blvd  
Ham Lake Mn 55304



**We are located on  
Bunker Lake Blvd  
just 2 miles East of Hwy 65**



**SPIRIT of CHRIST**  
Lutheran Church

2749 NE Bunker Lake Blvd  
Ham Lake, MN 55304  
[www.Spiritofchristhamlake.org](http://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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