



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!

September 17, 2023

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

This morning we welcome Anthony Darrel Smith as our brother in Christ through the waters of Holy Baptism. Anthony is the son of Ryan and Breanna Smith. Anthony's Baptismal sponsors are Abigail Young, Brent Freundschuh, and Ryan Freundschuh.

Welcome

From All That Dwell Below the Skies

LSB 816

**1 From all that dwell below the skies
Let the Creator's praise arise;
Alleluia, alleluia!
Let the Redeemer's name be sung
Through ev'ry land by ev'ry tongue.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**2 Eternal are thy mercies, Lord;
Eternal truth attends thy Word.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore
Till suns shall rise and set no more.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**△ 3 All praise to God the Father be,
All praise, eternal Son, to thee.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Whom with the Spirit we adore
Forever and forevermore:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

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, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C** **Amen**

Sit

God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

- 1 **God's own child, I gladly say it:
I am baptized into Christ!
He, because I could not pay it,**

Gave my full redemption price.
Do I need earth's treasures many?
I have one worth more than any
That brought me salvation free
Lasting to eternity!

- 2 Sin, disturb my soul no longer:
I am baptized into Christ!
I have comfort even stronger:
Jesus' cleansing sacrifice.
Should a guilty conscience seize me
Since my Baptism did release me
In a dear forgiving flood,
Sprinkling me with Jesus' blood?
- 3 Satan, hear this proclamation:
I am baptized into Christ!
Drop your ugly accusation,
I am not so soon enticed.
Now that to the font I've traveled,
All your might has come unraveled,
And, against your tyranny,
God, my Lord, unites with me!
- 4 Death, you cannot end my gladness:
I am baptized into Christ!
When I die, I leave all sadness
To inherit paradise!
Though I lie in dust and ashes
Faith's assurance brightly flashes:
Baptism has the strength divine
To make life immortal mine.
- 5 There is nothing worth comparing
To this lifelong comfort sure!
Open-eyed my grave is staring:
Even there I'll sleep secure.
Though my flesh awaits its raising,
Still my soul continues praising:
I am baptized into Christ;
I'm a child of paradise!

Holy Baptism

- P** Holy Baptism is God's gift to us. In this Sacrament we become a part of the family of God as we are welcomed into the Church, which is the body of Christ. The Small Catechism says "Baptism is not water only, but it is water used together with God's word and by God's command." God's

living Word of promise works powerfully with the water. Baptism is the death of the old sinner and a rebirth into new life in Christ.

A *“I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit.” “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved.” (John 3:5; Mark 16:16a)*

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:18b-20)

P How is this child named?

R Anthony Darrel Smith

P Anthony, receive the sign of the cross on your forehead and heart, because you are redeemed by Christ the crucified.

Today, Ryan and Breanna, you are responding to the command of Jesus and the love that God has shown to Anthony in the gift of Jesus himself. I ask you, parents: will you faithfully bring this child to worship, teach him the Lord’s Prayer, the Creeds and the Commandments, place in his hands the Holy Scriptures, and provide for his instruction in the Christian faith?

R We will, by God’s grace.

P On behalf of Anthony, do you as his parents reject the devil and all his works and all his ways?

R We do.

P Sponsors, will you pray for Anthony, support his parents in his ongoing instruction and nurture in the Christian Faith, and love him in a way that gives an example of Christ’s love?

R We will, with God’s help.

P Saints of God in this congregation, will you support Anthony in his life in Christ?

C **We will, by the power of the Spirit of Christ.**

P I ask Anthony’s parents, his sponsors, and the entire community to give witness to our faith. Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

C **We do.**

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only son...living and the dead?

C **We do.**

P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy catholic church... life everlasting?

C **We do.**

P Let us join hands and pray as a family the prayer that our Lord Jesus taught us.

C **Our Father who art in heaven...forever and ever. Amen.**

P Anthony, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Let us pray: God, you make light to shine in the darkness. You bring new life from death. We are thankful that you have accepted Anthony as your own. May he grow in faith and love and know always that he is part of

your family and that you are his loving God. May we each know the abundant life you give in Jesus and remember how you joined water to Word to claim us forever.

C Amen.

P Go in peace!

C Thanks be to God!

First Reading

Genesis 50:15-21

¹⁵ When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they sent word to Joseph, saying, "Your father left these instructions before he died: ¹⁷ 'This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.' Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father." When their message came to him, Joseph wept.

¹⁸ His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. "We are your slaves," they said.

¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. ²¹ So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Romans 14:1-12

¹⁴ Accept the one whose faith is weak, without quarreling over disputable matters. ² One person's faith allows them to eat anything, but another, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables. ³ The one who eats everything must not treat with contempt the one who does not, and the one who does not eat everything must not judge the one who does, for God has accepted them. ⁴ Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To their own master, servants stand or fall. And they will stand, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵ One person considers one day more sacred than another; another considers every day alike. Each of them should be fully convinced in their own mind.

⁶ Whoever regards one day as special does so to the Lord. Whoever eats meat does so to the Lord, for they give thanks to God; and whoever abstains does so to the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷ For none of us lives for ourselves alone, and none of us dies for ourselves alone. ⁸ If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. ⁹ For this very reason, Christ died and returned to life so that he might be the Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰ You, then, why do you judge your brother or sister? Or why do you treat them with contempt? For we will all stand before God's judgment seat. ¹¹ It is written: "As surely as I live," says the Lord,

'every knee will bow before me;
every tongue will acknowledge God.'"

¹² So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

Praise Band

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 18:21-35

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹ Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?”

²² Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

²³ “Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴ As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. ²⁵ Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

²⁶ “At this the servant fell on his knees before him. ‘Be patient with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’ ²⁷ The servant’s master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

²⁸ “But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. ^[c] He grabbed him and began to choke him. ‘Pay back what you owe me!’ he demanded.

²⁹ “His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’

³⁰ “But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. ³¹ When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened.

³² “Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. ³³ Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ ³⁴ In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

³⁵ “This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

P This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

No Saint On Earth Lives Life to Self Alone

LSB 747 tune 752

- 1 No saint on earth lives life to self alone
Or dies alone, for we with Christ are one.
So if we live, for Christ alone we live,
And if we die, to Christ our dying give.
In living and in dying this confess:
We are the Lord's, safe in God's faithfulness.
- 2 For to this end our Lord by death was slain,
That to new life he might arise again.
Through sorrow on to triumph Christ has led,
And reigns o'er all: the living and the dead.
In living and in dying, him we bless;
We are the Lord's, safe in God's faithfulness.

Homily

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

Praise Band

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory
Holy is the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord
Hosanna, Hosanna, Holy is the Lord.

The Words of Our Lord

Agnus Dei

Praise Band

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of all the world,
Hear us, Jesus.
Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of all the world,
Have mercy on us.
Have mercy on us
And give us your peace.**

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.

O Taste and See

Praise Band

**What is this bread? What is this bread?
This bread we break, this life we take?
He died to pay, for our release
O taste and see, the Lord is peace.**

**What is this wine? What is this wine?
The blood of Jesus shed for mine;
The cup of grace, brings his embrace
O taste and see, the Lord is King.**

**So who am I, that I should live
And he should die, and me forgive.
My God, my God, forsake me not.
O taste and see, the Lord is free.**

**Yet is God here? His promise clear
In mouth and soul, he makes us whole.
Christ present here, in this His meal.
O taste and see- the Lord is real.**

Is this for me? Is this for me?

I Am forgiven and set free!
I do believe that I receive.
His flesh and blood,
O taste and see.

This is for you. This is for me.
We are forgiven and set free!
We do believe that we receive
His flesh and blood, the Lord is good,
O taste and see.

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

LSB 641 tune 846

*ref You satisfy the hungry heart
With gift of finest wheat.
Come give to us, O saving Lord,
The bread of life to eat.*

- 1 As when the shepherd calls his sheep,
They know and heed his voice;
So when you call your fam'ly, Lord,
We follow and rejoice. *Refrain*
- 2 With joyful lips we sing to you
Our praise and gratitude
That you should count us worthy, Lord,
To share this heav'nly food. *Refrain*
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share
The blood of Christ outpoured?
Do not one cup, one loaf, declare
Our oneness in the Lord? *Refrain*
- 4 The myst'ry of your presence, Lord,
No mortal tongue can tell:
Whom all the world cannot contain
Comes in our hearts to dwell. *Refrain*
- 5 You give yourself to us, O Lord;
Then selfless let us be,
To serve each other in your name
In truth and charity. *Refrain*

We Belong to God

ELW 639

- 1 *When we are living
It is in Christ Jesus
And when we're dying
It is in the Lord.*

*Both in our living
And in our dying,
We belong to God,
We belong to God.*

*Ref 'Mid times of sorrow and in times of pain,
When sensing beauty or love's embrace,
Whether we suffer, or sing rejoicing,
We belong to God.*

*2 Across the wide world,
We shall always find,
Those who are crying
With no peace of mind;
And when we help them,
Or when we feed them,
We belong to God,
We belong to God. (Refrain)*

*3 When we are living
It is in Christ Jesus
And when we're dying
It is in the Lord.
Both in our living
And in our dying,
We belong to God,
We belong to God.*

Ancient Words

Praise Band

*1 Holy words long preserved
For our walk in this world,
They resound with God's own heart
Oh, Let the Ancient words impart.*

*2 Words of Life, words of Hope
Give us strength, help us cope
In this world, where e're we roam
Ancient words will guide us Home.*

*Ref Ancient words ever true
Changing me, and changing you.
We have come with open hearts
Oh, let the ancient words impart.*

*3 Holy words of our faith
Handed down to this age.*

*Came to us through sacrifice
Oh heed the faith words of Christ.*

4 *Holy words long preserved
For our walk in this world,
They resound with God's own heart
Oh, Let the Ancient words impart. (Ref)*

5 *We have come with open hearts
Oh, ancient words impart.*

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.

In Thee Is Gladness

LSB 818

- 1 **In thee is gladness
Amid all sadness,
Jesus, sunshine of my heart.
By thee are given
The gifts of heaven,
Thou the true Redeemer art.
Our souls thou wakest,
Our bonds thou breakest;
Who trusts thee surely
Has built securely;
He stands forever: Alleluia!
Our hearts are pining
To see thy shining,
Dying or living
To thee are cleaving;
Naught can us sever: Alleluia!**
- 2 **Since he is ours,
We fear no powers,
Not of earth nor sin nor death.
He sees and blesses
In worst distresses;
He can change them with a breath.
Wherefore the story
Tell of his glory
With hearts and voices;
All heav'n rejoices**

**In him forever: Alleluia!
We shout for gladness,
Triumph o'er sadness,
Love Him and praise him
And still shall raise him
Glad hymns forever: Alleluia!**

Announcements

Sending

Serving in worship today

September 17, 2023

Pastor:

Jason Neel

Elder:

Phil Marquardt
Carl Schwanbeck

Reader:

Karine Platt

Usher:

Jan Fuerst

In our prayers

Celebrating Birthdays: Camille Kuntz 9/17 and Jan Fuerst 9/18

Celebrating Baptismal Birthdays: Kevin Zimmerman 9/19, Bonnie Garland 9/20, and Savannah Hofman 9/23.

Celebrating Anniversaries: Patrick and Paula Bryan 9/16, Davis and Kassidy Bryan 9/21, and Doug and Beth Degler 9/22.

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
	11:30 a.m.	Middle School Youth Group
	6:00 p.m.	Sunday Night Bible Study
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Women's Coffee Group
	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.	Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	6:00 p.m.	Sunday Night Bible Study

Notes of Information:

Middle School Youth Group: Middle Schoolers and their parents are invited to join us for lunch following education hour in the fellowship hall.

New Fellowship Opportunity: All women of the congregation are invited to attend a Women's coffee **this Wednesday, September 20th** at 10:00. This group will meet on the third Wednesday each month and will do a variety of fun activities. For more information contact Beth Gerard at 612-328-2324

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

New Sunday Night Bible Study: Beginning on September 17th, 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.

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.

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	\$5977
Average offering needed per week to fulfill work plan	\$6662

Readings for next week:

Jonah 3:10-4:11, Philippians 1:21-30, Matthew 20:1-16

 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
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

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: soclcpastor@gmail.com

Ministers: All Members

Music Director

John Peterson: carsinger@aol.com

Office e-mail: secretary@soclc.org

Prayer Chain (Sue Hurst): Sd_hurst@yahoo.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SpiritofChristLutheran.LCMS>