

“I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you.”



Ezekiel 36:26



## 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 1, 2024

*Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

### Welcome

#### *Restore in Us, O God*

*ELW 328*

- 1 Restore in us, O God,  
The splendor of your love;  
Renew your image in our hearts  
And all our sins remove.**
- 2 O Spirit, wake in us,  
The wonder of your pow’r;  
From fruitless fear unfurl our lives,  
Like a spring-time bud and flow’r**
- 3 Bring us, O Christ,  
To share the fullness of your joy;  
Baptize us in the risen life  
That death cannot destroy.**
- 4 Three-personed God, fulfill  
The promise of your grace;  
That we, when all our searching ends,  
May see you face to face.**

*Stand*

### Invocation

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy

Spirit.

**C** Amen.

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

## Confession and Absolution

**P** You may have heard someone say, “garbage in, garbage out.” We are sometimes tempted to apply this to the Christian life, in an effort to protect ourselves from sinful influences.

**C** **We imagine that by avoiding the wrong movies and music, by staying away from people who speak and think in unchristian ways, or by not indulging in alcohol or other substances we can keep sin out of our lives.**

**P** But Jesus explains that this is not how sin works. He says, “Don’t you see that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and then out of the body? But the things that come out of a person’s mouth come from the heart, and these defile them.

**C** **For out of the heart come evil thoughts – murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.**

**P** These are what defile a person. We sin because our hearts are in rebellion against God and we are closed off to the neighbors that God puts before us.

**C** **Lord, forgive us for the sin that defiles us. Put me to death and raise up a new creation whose heart brings forth faith that expresses itself in love.**

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

**P** “Behold,” says the Lamb upon the throne, “I make everything new.” All those who live trusting in Christ Jesus have the assurance that the old is gone, and the new has come. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. You are being transformed, and your mind is being renewed daily. Live out your new and undefiled nature in joy for the sake of God and

your neighbor!

**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 God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** Amen

*Nursery care for small children is offered from this point in the service through Holy Communion. Children may meet their caregivers in the back of the sanctuary.*

*Sit*

## First Reading

*Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9*

Now, Israel, hear the decrees and laws I am about to teach you. Follow them so that you may live and may go in and take possession of the land the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. <sup>2</sup>Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the LORD your God that I give you. <sup>6</sup>Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people."<sup>7</sup> What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to him? <sup>8</sup>And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today?

<sup>9</sup> Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Second Reading

*Ezekiel 36:22a;24-29a*

<sup>22</sup> Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord God:

<sup>24</sup> “For I will take you out of the nations; I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back into your own land. <sup>25</sup> I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. <sup>26</sup> I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. <sup>27</sup> And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. <sup>28</sup> Then you will live in the land I gave your ancestors; you will be my people, and I will be your God. <sup>29</sup> I will save you from all your uncleanness.”

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia & 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

*Mark 7:1-23*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the seventh chapter.

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

The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus <sup>2</sup> and saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. <sup>3</sup> (The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the tradition of the elders. <sup>4</sup> When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles.)

<sup>5</sup> So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, “Why don’t your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with defiled hands?”

<sup>6</sup> He replied, “Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written:

“These people honor me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me.

<sup>7</sup> They worship me in vain;  
their teachings are merely human rules.’

<sup>8</sup> You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to human traditions.”

<sup>9</sup> And he continued, “You have a fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to observe your own traditions! <sup>10</sup> For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and mother,’ and, ‘Anyone who curses their father or mother is to be put to death.’ <sup>11</sup> But you say that if anyone declares that what might have been used to help their father or mother is Corban (that is, devoted to God)— <sup>12</sup> then you no longer let them do anything for their father or mother. <sup>13</sup> Thus you nullify the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And you do many things like that.”

<sup>14</sup> Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, “Listen to me, everyone, and understand this. <sup>15</sup> Nothing outside a person can defile them by going into them. Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defiles them. <sup>16</sup> If anyone has ears to hear, let them hear.”

<sup>17</sup> After he had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked him about this parable. <sup>18</sup> “Are you so dull?” he asked. “Don’t you see that nothing that enters a person from the outside can defile them? <sup>19</sup> For it doesn’t go into their heart but into their stomach, and then out of the body.” (In saying this, Jesus declared all foods clean.)

<sup>20</sup> He went on: “What comes out of a person is what defiles them. <sup>21</sup> For it is from within, out of a person’s heart, that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup> adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. <sup>23</sup> All these evils come from inside and defile a person.”

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

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

*Sit*

- 1 **Renew me, O eternal Light,  
And let my heart and soul be bright,  
Illumined with the light of grace  
That issues from your holy face.**
- 2 **Remove the pow'r of sin from me  
And cleanse all my impurity  
That I may have the strength and will  
Temptations of the flesh to still.**
- 3 **Create in me a new heart, Lord,  
That gladly I obey your Word.  
Let what you will be my desire,  
And with new life my soul inspire.**
- 4 **Grant that I only you may love  
And seek those things which are above  
Till I behold you face to face,  
O Light eternal, through your grace.**

## **Homily**

### **Apostles' Creed**

**☩ 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.

## Prayers of the Church

### Presentation of the Offering

*Stand*

#### Preface

*LSB 208*

- 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;  
Heaven 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 our Lord!

#### Lord's Prayer

#### Words of our Lord

#### *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.*

***Not What These Hands Have Done***

*LSB 567*

- 1 Not what these hands have done  
Can save this guilty soul;  
Not what this toiling flesh has borne  
Can make my spirit whole.**
- 2 Not what I feel or do  
Can give me peace with God;  
Not all my prayers and sighs and tears  
Can bear my awful load.**
- 3 Thy work alone, O Christ,  
Can ease this weight of sin;  
Thy blood alone, O Lamb of God,  
Can give me peace within.**
- 4 Thy love to me, O God,  
Not mine, O Lord, to thee,  
Can rid me of this dark unrest  
And set my spirit free.**
- 5 Thy grace alone, O God,  
To me can pardon speak;  
Thy pow'r alone, O Son of God,  
Can this sore bondage break.**
- 6 I bless the Christ of God,  
I rest on love divine,  
And with unfalt'ring lip and heart  
I call this Savior mine.**

***All Mankind Fell in Adam's Fall***

*LSB 562*

- 1 All mankind fell in Adam's fall;  
One common sin infects us all.**

**From one to all the curse descends,  
And over all God's wrath impends.**

- 2 Through all our pow'rs corruption creeps  
And us in dreadful bondage keeps;  
In guilt we draw our infant breath  
And reap its fruits of woe and death.**
- 3 From hearts depraved, to evil prone,  
Flow thoughts and deeds of sin alone;  
God's image lost, the darkened soul  
Seeks not nor finds its heav'nly goal.**
- 4 But Christ, the second Adam, came  
To bear our sin and woe and shame,  
To be our life, our light, our way,  
Our only hope, our only stay.**
- 5 As by one man all mankind fell  
And, born in sin, was doomed to hell,  
So by one Man, who took our place,  
We all were justified by grace.**
- 6 We thank you, Christ; new life is ours,  
New light, new hope, new strength, new pow'rs.  
This grace our ev'ry way attend  
Until we reach our journey's end.**

***Thy Works, Not Mine, O Christ***

*LSB 565 (tune 912)*

- 1 Thy works, not mine, O Christ,  
Speak gladness to this heart;  
They tell me all is done,  
They bid my fear depart. *Refrain***

*ref To whom save thee,  
Who canst alone  
For sin atone,  
Lord, shall I flee?*

- 2 Thy wounds, not mine, O Christ,  
Can heal my bruised soul;  
Thy stripes, not mine, contain  
The balm that makes me whole. *Refrain***

- 3 Thy cross, not mine, O Christ,  
Has borne the crushing load  
Of sins that none could bear  
But the incarnate God. *Refrain*
- 4 Thy death, not mine, O Christ,  
Has paid the ransom due;  
Ten thousand deaths like mine  
Would have been all too few. *Refrain*
- 5 Thy righteousness, O Christ,  
Alone can cover me;  
No righteousness avails  
Save that which is of thee. *Refrain*

*Change my Heart, O God*  
*Ref Change my heart, O God;*  
*Make it ever true.*  
*Change my heart, O God;*  
*May I be like you.*

*ELW 801*

- 1 You are the potter;  
I am the clay. *Refrain*
- 2 Mold me and make me;  
This is what I pray. *Refrain*
- 3 You are the potter;  
I am the clay. *Refrain*
- 4 Mold me and make me;  
This is what I pray. *Refrain*

## Dismissal

## Benediction

*LSB 183*

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and give ☩ you peace.

**G** Amen

- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways  
To keep his statutes still!  
Oh, that my God would grant me grace  
To know and do his will!
- 2 Order my footsteps by thy Word  
And make my heart sincere;  
Let sin have no dominion, Lord,  
But keep my conscience clear.
- 3 Assist my soul, too apt to stray,  
A stricter watch to keep;  
And should I e'er forget thy way,  
Restore thy wand'ring sheep.
- 4 Make me to walk in thy commands—  
'Tis a delightful road—  
Nor let my head or heart or hands  
Offend against my God.

## **Announcements**

## **Sending**

- P** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
- G** Thanks be to God.

# Serving in worship today

September 1, 2024

## **Pastor**

Jason Neel

## **Acolyte**

Camille Kuntz

## **Usher**

Sue Anderson

## **Elders**

Eric Skogerboe

Chuck Johnson

## **Reader**

Wayne Chambard

## **Nursery**

Leslie Kuntz

## **In our prayers**

**Celebrating Birthdays:** Savannah Hofman 9/2, Art Hayden 9/4, PJ Marquardt 9/4, Davis Bryan 9/5, Martha Gunderson 9/5, Cassie Weinhold 9/6, and Sarah Skogerboe 9/7.

**Celebrating Baptisms:** Sandy Elhardt 9/1, Hunter Bellrichard 9/2, Kelsey Birkholz 9/3, Ashly Parson 9/4, Jonelle Welle 9/4, Linda Schwanbeck 9/4, Josh Williams 9/5, Jamil Poindexter 9/6, and Lyla Marquardt 9/6.

**Celebrating Anniversaries:** Wayne and Renee Chambard

## **This Week at a Glance**

Today	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship Service
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Women's Bible Study
Wednesday	6:00 p.m.	Youth Group
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
	11:45 a.m.	Rally Day Party

## **Notes of Information**

**Pastor Appreciation Lunch:** Please join us on October 6<sup>th</sup>, following Education hour for a Spaghetti lunch to celebrated Pastor Jason's 20 years serving at Spirit of Christ.

**Fall Revelation Bible Study:** On Monday September 16, Pastor Jason resume a Bible Study on Revelation. The Monday Bible study will meet most Mondays from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The study will not meet September 23, October 28<sup>th</sup>, or November 25<sup>th</sup> to allow for Book Club to meet. Please see the schedule posted in the Narthex for more information or see the calendar on the website.

**Youth Lock-in:** There will be a lock-in on Saturday, September 28, for all Middle and High School youth. Please mark your calendars, more information on timing to come. We will be serving at Feed My Starving Children that evening, if you would like to help during that time, please let Laura know so she can have the appropriate head count for FMSC.

**Sunday School Teachers Needed:** We need Sunday School Teachers. Curriculum is provided and we are willing to pair you with a co-teacher. The future of our congregation is in our youth (and they are really a fun group), please consider becoming a Sunday School teacher. If you are interested, please reach out to Leslie Kuntz.

**Confirmation Meeting:** There will be a confirmation meeting for parents and students on Wednesday September 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm in the fellowship hall. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Jason.

**Rally Day:** Please mark your calendar for Sunday September 8<sup>th</sup>, as we gather in fellowship to kick off the start of a new Sunday School year. Food will be provided by the boards and church council.

**LWML Mission Byte:** Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML) is excited to announce their annual "September to Remember" Giving Day on Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024. This special day is

an opportunity to support the LWML mission goal and honor/remember those who have made a significant impact as an LWML member.

LWML mission goal funds mission grants that support organizations serving the world and sharing the Gospel. Each grant honors God by serving those in need and witnessing his saving grace.

For one day only, on September 10<sup>th</sup>, donate toward the LWML mission goal in honor or memory of someone who has helped you become a Lutheran woman in mission. Donate online at [lwml.org/givingday](http://lwml.org/givingday). A matching gift will double the impact of the first \$10,000 donated! You can also mail your contribution to LWML 801 Seminary Place Suite L010, St. Louis, MO 63105. Please note “September to Remember” with your contribution.

**NACE:** North Anoka County Emergency Food Shelf is currently in need of items for “weekend pack” that are sent home with children from area schools. They need things like dried fruit, fruit cups, oatmeal packs, easy mac, shelf stable milk and other small snack items. Thank you for your donations. For more information reach out to Toni Peterson.

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

September 23 – I Will Find You by Harlan Coben

October 28 – Purgatory Ridge by William Kent Krueger

November 25 – It’s All About Him by Denise Jackson

December – Book Club does NOT meet.

If you have any questions, please contact Joan Mager

**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	\$6674
<i>Average offering needed per week to fulfill work plan</i>	\$6973



**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.

Church Office:	763-755-7234
Pastor Jason Neel:	<a href="mailto:soclcpastor@gmail.com">soclcpastor@gmail.com</a>
Ministers:	All Members
Music Director John Peterson:	<a href="mailto:carsinger@aol.com">carsinger@aol.com</a>
Office Manager Laura Marquardt:	<a href="mailto:secretary@soclc.org">secretary@soclc.org</a>
Prayer Chain (Sue Hurst):	<a href="mailto:Sd_hurst@yahoo.com">Sd_hurst@yahoo.com</a>