CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS
All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be God,
the one who forms us,
✠ Jesus who bears the cross,
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

Amen.
Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God,
you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you.
We are overwhelmed by the world’s violence and suffering.
We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.
For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.
For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us.
For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us.
Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Beloved in Christ,
God’s justice stretches beyond all understanding.
God’s compassion is beyond compare.
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
In ✠ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

Amen.
GATHERING SONG: *Come, Now is the Time to Worship*

Words and Music by: Brian Doerksen

Come, now is the time to worship.

Come, just as you are to worship.


One day every tongue will confess. You are God.

Willingly we choose to surrender our lives.

Still, the greatest treasure remains.

With all our heart, soul, mind.


GREETING

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**
PRAYER OF THE DAY
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. Amen.

READING: Ezekiel 33:7-11
7 So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. 8 If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. 9 But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.
10 Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” 11 Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?
The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 18:15-20
The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 18th chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 15 “If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. 16 But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. 17 If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. 18 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. 19 Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. 20 For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”
The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

SONG OF THE DAY: God’s Work Our Hands

(See page 7)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION
Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.
A brief silence.

Hold us accountable, O God. Show your church where repentance is needed and lead us in paths of intentional compassion and listening. Help us extend hands of reconciliation and care, especially in relationships with other Christians and people of other faiths. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

Reveal your miracles to us, O God. Move us to cherish you as we behold the wonders of creation. Renew the seas and the soil, the forests and the creatures that live in them. Turn us to ways of living that seek Earth’s thriving. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

Inspire us to lead with honor, O God. Guide judges and legislators, police, and government officials to create and uphold just laws. Move us to treat all people with dignity and guide our conversations with one another. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

Help us comfort those who suffer, O God. Reassure any who are harmed by the wicked acts of others. Bring peace to all who are vulnerable, frightened, despairing, or sick (especially). Guard their waking and their sleeping. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

Awaken us, O God. Challenge and encourage your people to value the vocation to which each is called. We pray for all discerning new possibilities or changing employment (especially). In all our diverse callings, teach us to love our neighbor above all else. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

Be our hope, O God. We remember with thanksgiving your disciples who died in faith (especially). May their trust in your promise be our protection and our hope. Merciful God, receive our prayer.

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ. Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE
The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

Greet those sitting next to you with these or similar words: “Peace be with you.”

GREAT THANKSGIVING
The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy God,

our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation,, the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise. When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.
In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life. Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. Amen

LORD’S PRAYER
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION
Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live. Thanks be to God!

All baptized Christians are invited to receive the sacrament of our Lord’s body and blood.
* In person you may come towards the steps to receive the bread first, then wine.
* If you’re in your car or online you may use any bread or cracker, wine, or juice.
* If others are with you, you may take turns sharing the bread and wine. Eat or give the bread, saying: “The body of Christ given for you.” Drink or give the wine, saying: “The blood of Christ shed for you.”
* You may trace the sign of the cross on the forehead of children who do not yet commune and speak these or similar words to them: “The Lord bless you and keep you today and always.”

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING
The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER
Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.
BENEDICTION
The God of glory, † Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever. Amen.

SENDING SONG: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord
(See page 8)

DISMISSAL
Go in peace. God is at work in you. Thanks be to God.

Offering: Thank you for continuing to give of your finances to support Christ Lutheran Church and our community ministries. Consider using one of these options for consistent giving over the summer months:
1) QR Code (secure.myvanco.com), takes you to the General Fund to donate. This option is helpful to create automatic recurring donations.
2) You can put your check in the US postal service to the church address.
3) Place offering in the basket as you drive in and out of parking lot.

www.christlutheranroanoke.org

STEWARDSHIP DRIVE
As we come into the fall, once again we embark in our reflections and visions for our church community. This year the Stewardship committee invites you to share in the conversation and journey of our 2023 Stewardship Drive over the next several weeks. The conversation will build on sharing thoughts and experiences that bring us together and build us up as a church and a community in Christ.

We continue with: I LOVE CHRIST LUTHERAN BECAUSE/FOR. . .
Pickup an index card at worship and fill in the following: I love Christ Lutheran because/for . . . Then place it on the bulletin board to share with everyone, it can be anonymous or with your name.

Serving Today
Preacher: Pastor Dave Skole, Presiders: Pastor Cindy Keyser,
Greeters: Susan Moore, Donna Furrow, Fiona Schulz, Reader: Donna Furrow,

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God’s Work, Our Hands

1 God’s work, our hands: working together,
   building a future, repairing the world,
   feeding the hungry and sheltering the cold.
   Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,

2 God’s work, our feet: traveling together,
   following Jesus to places unknown,
   running the race with God’s future the goal.
   Bless, God, our feet as we follow your way,

3 God’s work, our voice: singing together,
   praising, proclaiming to all who will hear,
   claiming God’s love for the lost and the least.
   Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,

4 God is at work in and around us:
   seedlings are sprouting and bread’s on the rise!
   washed and set free, humbled and honored,
   Bless, God, our lives as we answer your call,

   walking as friends, marching for freedom,
   praying for peace, shouting for justice,
   sharing the good news of your gospel.

   rais ing up homes, planting new gardens,
   raising up as friends, marching for freedom,
   sharing the good news of your gospel.

   prais ing, pro claim ing to all who will hear,
   praying for peace, shouting for justice,
   sharing the good news of your gospel.

   build ing a fu ture, re pair ing the world,
   praising, pro claim ing to all who will hear,
   sharing the good news of your gospel.

   fol low ing Je sus to plac es un known,
   praising, pro claim ing to all who will hear,
   sharing the good news of your gospel.

   prais ing, pro claim ing to all who will hear,
   praising, pro claim ing to all who will hear,
   sharing the good news of your gospel.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954
Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson, 1922–1987
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Go In Peace And Serve The Lord

Go in peace and serve the Lord. God is calling you today. Go and

tell gospel news everywhere. Go in peace and serve

Lord. God is calling you today to

bring truth and love to every nation.