

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, June 17, 2018



Christ Lutheran Church

(Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod)

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The Mission of Christ Lutheran Church is to help all people know Jesus as their Savior and grow in relationship with Him.

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HYMN "Father Welcomes" LSB 605

INVOCATION, CONFESSION, & ABSOLUTION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

C: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

INTROIT

Ps. 92:12–15; antiphon: Ps. 92:1

P: It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praises to Your name, O Most High.

C: The righteous flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

P: They are planted in the house of the LORD; they flourish in the courts of our God.

C: They still bear fruit in old age; they are ever full of sap and green, to declare that the LORD is upright;

P: He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.

C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P: It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praises to Your name, O Most High.

SALUTATION and COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 17:22-24

22 Thus says the Lord GOD: "I Myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of the cedar and will set it out. I will break off from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one, and I Myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. 23 On the mountain height of Israel will I plant it, that it may bear branches and produce fruit and become a noble cedar. And under it will dwell every kind of bird; in the shade of its branches birds of every sort will nest. 24 And all the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD; I bring low the high tree, and make high the low tree, dry up the green tree, and make the dry tree flourish. I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

2 Corinthians 5:1-10

1 For we know that if the tent, which is our earthly home, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in

the heavens. ² For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, ³ if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. ⁴ For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened – not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵ He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. ⁶ So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, ⁷ for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸ Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹ So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please Him. ¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand for the reading of the Holy Gospel)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 4th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 4:26-34

²⁶ And Jesus said, “The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. ²⁷ He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. ²⁸ The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. ²⁹ But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.” ³⁰ And He said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? ³¹ It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, ³² yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.” ³³ With many such parables He spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it. ³⁴ He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to His own disciples He explained everything.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

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 Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN "Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing" LSB 691

SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

WE WORSHIP THE LORD WITH OUR OFFERINGS

If you are a confirmed member of a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregation, we invite you to commune with us. If you are not a confirmed member of an LCMS congregation and would like to come forward with your family and friends during the distribution, please place your hands over your heart and you will receive a blessing.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully

eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PAX DOMINI

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN "What Is This Bread"LSB 629

THANKSGIVING and COLLECT

P: O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

C: His steadfast love endures forever.

P: Let us pray. We give thanks, heavenly Father, that You have refreshed us through this Sacrament, and we pray that we shall be aware of our Lord at work in His Holy Church; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FAREWELL AND GODSPEED TO PASTOR KELM

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: Amen.

HYMN "Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me"LSB 722

Acknowledgments

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THIS WEEK AT CLC — (6/17/18 – 6/24/18)

Sunday: Worship/HC, 9:00am; Kelm Farewell Reception

Wednesday: Quilters, 9:30am

Thursday: Bethesda Work Day, 1:00pm; Worship/HC, 6:30pm

Sunday: Worship/HC, 9:00am; LWML District Convention

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE (Week ending June 10, 2018)

General & Building Funds: \$5256.75; Blessings: \$40.75

Attendance: Thursday: 22; Sunday: 103

CLC ANNOUNCEMENTS

GUESTS AND VISITORS: We are glad you are here! We invite you to join us for fellowship following the service. Bathrooms are located upstairs on each end of the fellowship/Bible study area.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS begins its summer break this week. Study will resume in the fall.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for providing fellowship treats! Check the Signup Genius computer or contact the church office to volunteer.

PASTOR KELM'S INSTALLATION service will take place on Sunday, July 1, at 3:00pm at St. John Lutheran Church in Pickeral. If you are planning on attending, please put your name on the signup sheet on the podium in the fellowship area.

JUNE HUMAN CARE DONATIONS are going to The Open Door. Gently used clothing items are needed.

"LIFE QUOTES" from Lutherans For Life

“Children, vulnerable and dependent, desperately need security, and it has ever been a duty and a joy of fatherhood to offer it. Being a father requires strength ... and more than a little courage ... to persevere, to fight discouragement, and to keep working for the family ... With God’s grace, fathers find the patience to teach, the fortitude to provide, the compassion to comfort, and the mercy to forgive. All of this is to say that they find the strength to love their wives and children selflessly ... Let us ... express our thanks and affection to our fathers, whether we can do so in person or in prayer.” *President Ronald Reagan, Father’s Day 1988 – (www.lutheransforlife.org)*