

Living Christ Lutheran Church (L.C.M.S.)

Faith | Love | Outreach | Worship

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Pastor Steven D Latzke 574-261-4427

www.livingchristplainfield.com

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost - July 16, 2023



As We Gather

Though you may be familiar with Jesus' parable of the sower, you may be surprised to hear that you do not really know it yet! That's because on the one hand, the Word of God does not change. Yet on the other hand, we need to keep hearing it again and again, because our circumstances are constantly changing. The parable of the sower tells of this mystery. The seed is God's Word, God's work of planting repentance and faith in ears who hear. We may think of the various kinds of soil Jesus mentions to be various sorts of people. Actually, however, He is describing each individual in their changing circumstances. There are times when we are "good soil," that is, we understand God's Word and take comfort in it. There are other times, however, when we either cannot or will not hear it. Sometimes we become hard paths, rocky or distracted by worries or fears. For this reason, God never ceases planting, speaking, and growing faith in the heart, and we return repeatedly to continue hearing, reading, learning, and receiving God's Word because He never gives up on you.

Living Christ for Kids

Christian educational childcare for infants thru 11 years - Mrs. Kim Maxwell, Director

317-837-9998

Visitors, we welcome you and thank you for being with us today. May we be a blessing to you and you to us. We pray you will be moved to come again soon to receive with us God's gifts of forgiveness, peace and life in the name of Jesus Christ.

Quietly prepare your hearts and minds to worship and approach the throne of our holy and almighty God.

Worship each week 10:30 AM (Communion: 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays)

Growing in our Faith Walk -New series of Discussion Videos "Trite, not true"

This series looks at some cultural beliefs and trite statements inside Christianity that sound good, wise and helpful, but in the end might not be true biblically, could discourage people, could disrupt their faith and lead them further away from a true relationship with God. Join on Sundays at 9:00 am

"When God Closes a Door, He Opens a Window"

"You're Never More Safe than When You're in the Will of God"-July 16th

"Let Go and Let God"

"Love the Sinner, Hate the Sin"

"I Can Do All Things Through Christ Who Strengthens Me"

"Everything Happens for a Reason"

The worship service is recorded and available by text and/or email. You can also find it on our website – www.livingchristplainfield.com. Please let us know if you (or someone you know) would also like to receive the service.

If you are in need of pastoral services, please contact Pastor Latzke at (574) 261-4427 or Emmett Fuehrer (317-260-0821) or Evelyn Benning (317-292-3195).

Upcoming Events

Saturday, July 29

Brunch with Kathie – 10:00 am

Saturday, August 12

Indiana District LWML Treatshop – 9:30 – 3:30

Come along. Info on the table in the lobby and in the newsletter.

Opening Hymn

589 Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens

(Please rise for the last stanza.)



1 Speak, O Lord, Your ser - vant lis - tens, Let Your Word to
 2 Oh, what bless - ing to be near You And to lis - ten
 3 Lord, Your words are wa - ters liv - ing When my thirst - ing
 4 As I pray, dear Je - sus, hear me; Let Your words in



me come near; New - born life and spir - it give me,
 to Your voice; Let me ev - er love and hear You,
 spir - it pleads. Lord, Your words are bread life - giv - ing;
 me take root. May Your Spir - it e'er be near me



Let each prom - ise still my fear. Death's dread pow'r, its in - ward
 Let Your Word be now my choice! Man - y hard - ened sin - ners,
 On Your words my spir - it feeds. Lord, Your words will be my
 That I bear a - bun - dant fruit. May I dai - ly sing Your



strife, Wars a - gainst Your Word of life; Fill me, Lord, with
 Lord, Flee in ter - ror at Your Word; But to all who
 light Through death's cold and drea - ry night; Yes, they are my
 praise, From my heart glad an - thems raise, Till my high - est



love's strong fer - vor That I cling to You for - ev - er!
 feel sin's bur - den You give words of peace and par - don.
 sword pre - vail - ing And my cup of joy un - fail - ing!
 praise is giv - en In the end - less joy of heav - en.

Text: Anna Sophia von Hessen-Darmstadt, 1638-83; (sts. 1-3): tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860-1942, alt.; (st. 4): tr. Christian Worship, 1993
 Tune: Johann Schop, c. 1590-1667 Text and tune: Public domain

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

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession and Absolution

- P** In that divine hope, let us confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You by not letting You have Your way with us. We have become deaf to Your Word. Because of our weak love for You and for our neighbor, we have become fruitless trees deserving only Your judgment. Therefore, we return to You today asking Your forgiveness and for the strengthening of our faith and love. By Your Word, restore us and renew us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

- P** Fruitful trees, the Spirit's sowing: upon this, your confession, I by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word announce the grace of God to 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.**

Absolution

LSB 185

- 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.**

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 103:15–19; antiphon: v. 8

The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
As for man, his days are like grass;
he flourishes like a flower of the field;
for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,
and its place knows it no more.

But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him,

and his righteousness to children's children,
to those who keep his covenant

and remember to do his commandments.

The LORD has established his throne in the heavens,

and his kingdom rules over all.

The LORD is merciful and gracious,

slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Gloria Patri

LSB 186



C Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;



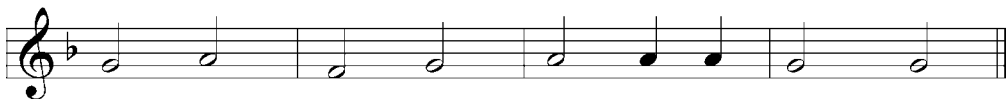
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Kyrie

LSB 186



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

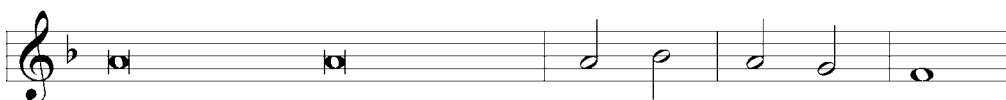
LSB 187



P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And with thy spirit.

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.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55:10–13

(God's powerful Word for all)

¹⁰“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there but water the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
¹²“For you shall go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall break forth into singing,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall make a name for the LORD,
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 8:12–17

(Life through the Spirit)

¹²So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the

Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Verse

Isaiah 40:8

Alleluia. The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. Alleluia.

Alleluia

LSB 190



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

(The parable of the sower)

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: “A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, ⁶but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹He who has ears, let him hear. . . .

¹⁸“Hear then the parable of the sower: ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. ²³As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.

**And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.**

Sit

Hymn of the Day

577 Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast

1 Al - might - y God, Your Word is cast Like
 2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe This
 3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares The
 4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, Life -

seed in - to the ground; Now let the dew of
 ho - ly seed re - move, But give it root in
 ris - ing plant de - stroy, But let it yield a
 giv - ing grace be - stow That all whose souls the

heav'n de - scend And righ - teous fruits a - bound.
 ev - 'ry heart To bring forth fruits of love.
 hun - dred - fold The fruits of peace and joy.
 truth re - ceive Its sav - ing pow'r may know.

Text: John Cawood, 1775–1852, alt.

Tune: The Whole Booke of Psalmes, 1562, London

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

THE SPIRIT OF ADOPTION

Text: Romans 8:12–17

Votum

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

Stand

Offering

(Please place your offering in the offering plate.)

Offertory (Presentation of offerings)

LSB 192



C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Prayer of the Church

P Our Lord Jesus invites us to ask, and we shall receive; to seek, and we will find; and to knock, and the door will be opened. So we bring prayer for the Church, the world, and ourselves before almighty God, trusting in the promise of our Lord.

Response following each petition: Lord, hear our prayer.

P In faith we entrust our prayers to You, heavenly Father. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.

C Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface (Full)

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



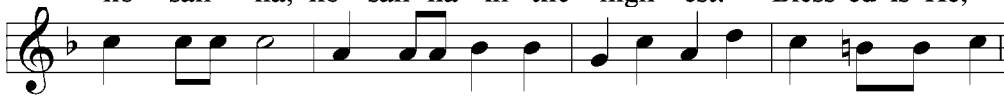
C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C 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.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

LSB 197



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



G A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - - men.

Sit

Distribution

642 O Living Bread from Heaven

sts. 1-2, 4



1 O liv - ing Bread from heav - en, How well You
2 My Lord, You here have led me To this most
4 Lord, grant me then, thus strength - ened With heav'n - ly



feed Your guest! The gifts that You have giv - en
ho - ly place And with Your - self have fed me
food, while here My course on earth is length - ened,



Have filled my heart with rest. Oh, won - drous food of
The trea - sures of Your grace; For You have free - ly
To serve with ho - ly fear. And when You call my



bless - ing, Oh, cup that heals our woes! My heart, this
giv - en What earth could nev - er buy, The bread of
spir - it To leave this world be - low, I en - ter,



gift pos - sess - ing, With prais - es o - ver - flows.
life from heav - en, That now I shall not die.
through Your mer - it, Where joys un - min - gled flow.

Text: Johann Rist, 1607-67; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
Text and tune: Public domain

Tune: Musae Sioniae, 1609, vol. 7, Wolfenbüttel, ed. Michael Praetorius

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

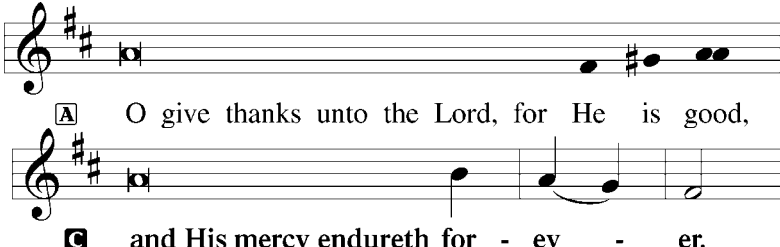
LSB 199



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
G and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Salutation

LSB 201



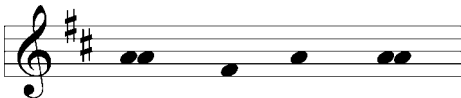
P The Lord be with you.



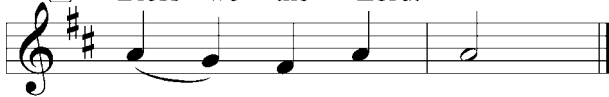
C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

LSB 202



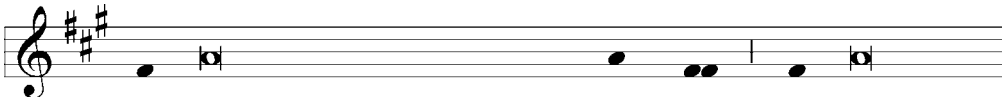
A Bless we the Lord.



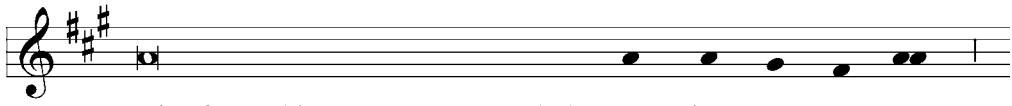
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

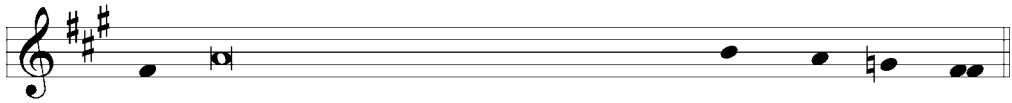
LSB 202



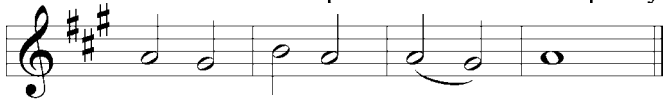
P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



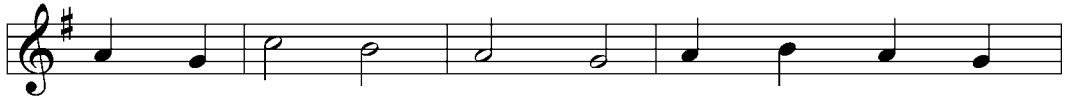
■ A-men, a-men, a - men.

Closing Hymn

923 Almighty Father, Bless the Word



1 Al - might - y Fa - ther, bless the Word Which through Your
2 We praise You for the means of grace As home - ward
△ 3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all



grace we now have heard. Oh, may the pre - cious
now our steps we trace. Grant, Lord, that we who
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye



seed take root, Spring up, and bear a - bun - dant fruit!
wor - shiped here May all at last in heav'n ap - pear.
heav'n - ly host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text (sts. 1-2): Church Poetry, 1823, Philadelphia, alt.; (st. 3): Thomas Ken, 1637-1711
Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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