

# Christ Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod  
Hillsboro, Texas



... carry the  
**CROSS**  
and follow me ...

Luke 14:27, NRSV

Sunday School Rally Day

KNOWING THE COST

September 7, 2025

## TODAY'S MESSAGE: KNOWING THE COST

By growing in the instruction of God's Word, we are formed and strengthened to live as faithful disciples of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Being a disciple of Jesus (a Christian) is about knowing the cost – the cost of our salvation, namely the cross of Jesus, and the cost of putting everything in our life second to, and giving up everything that would lead us away from, following Jesus by listening to, learning from and living according to His Word. As Paul writes in his letter to the Philippians: "Whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things."



In the Lord's Supper, Jesus gives us His body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins. The Lord's Supper is also a very sacred and intimate proclamation of fellowship among those who confess the same faith (doctrine, teachings) concerning God's Word and the Gospel of His Son Jesus Christ. Therefore, we practice close communion and ask that those who are not confirmed members of an LC-MS congregation receive instruction prior to receiving the Lord's Supper.

*Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself.*

1 Corinthians 11:27-29

Before receiving the Lord's Supper, we need to examine ourselves in the following way:

(1) Am I truly repentant (sorry) for all of my sins and do I truthfully desire to change my sinful life? (2) Do I believe that Jesus is my Lord and Savior and that in the Lord's Supper I receive His body and His blood for the forgiveness of all my sins? And (3) Have I been instructed in the Scriptures and have I publicly confessed my belief that the teachings of this church and the LC-MS are faithful to God's Word and the Gospel of His Son Jesus Christ?

If you have questions about what God's Word says concerning the Lord's Supper, please speak with the pastor and/or pick up our brochure titled "Fellowship in the Lord's Supper".

Those not confirmed are welcome to come to the altar, keep your hands down and folded and receive a blessing. For those who will be communing: **Non-alcoholic** wine is located in the center of each tray for those who have concerns with alcohol. We offer the **chalice** as well as individual cups. If you desire the chalice, do not take an individual cup from the tray and the pastor will serve you from the chalice. Christ is present in both to grant you forgiveness.

## **✝ ORDER OF SERVICE WITH COMMUNION ✝**

[“Divine Service: Setting One” from LSB p.151]

*Please silence – or turn off – all phones and electronic devices before and during the service.*

Welcome

Announcements

Opening Hymn

“Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear”

LSB 908

**Lord, open now my heart to hear, and through Your Word to me draw near.  
Let me Your Word e’er pure retain. Let me Your child and heir remain.**

**Your Word inspires my heart within. Your Word grants healing from my sin.  
Your Word has pow’r to guide and bless. Your Word brings peace and happiness.**

**To God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit, Three in One,  
Shall glory, praise and honor be, now and throughout eternity.**

Invocation

*Matthew 28:19b*

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

**C:** *(sung)* **A - - - men.**

Confession of Sins

*1 John 1:8-9*

**P:** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C:** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins  
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

**P:** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**ALL:** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We  
have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and  
by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we  
have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and  
eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.  
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk  
in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

- P: Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for you and for his sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *John 20:19-23*
- C: *(sung)* **A - - - men.**

Entrance Psalm [ESV]

Psalm 1

- P: Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers.
- C: **But his delight is in the law of the LORD and on his law he meditates day and night.**
- P: He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.
- C: **The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**
- P: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.
- C: **For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.**
- P: Blessed are they who delight in the law of the Lord.
- C: **They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in season.**
- ALL: **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.**

Hymn of Praise

“Thy Word is a Lamp”

[AGPS 247]

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (2X)**

**When I feel afraid, think I’ve lost my way, still you’re there right beside me.  
And nothing will I fear as long as you are near. Please be near me to the end.**

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (2X)**

**I will not forget your love for me and yet my heart forever is wandering.  
Jesus, be my guide and hold me to your side, and I will love you to the end.**

**Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (2X)**



## Salutation

2 Timothy 4:22

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *(sung)* **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray.

## Opening Prayer

**ALL: Merciful Lord, by the power of your Spirit working through your holy Word, grant to us encouragement, wisdom and an ever-growing faith so that as both teachers and learners, we bear your cross and follow you as your disciples; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading [ESV]

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.** John 6:68

## Epistle Reading [ESV]

Philippians 3:4-11

If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ.

Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith – that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.** John 6:68

### Gospel Reading [ESV]

Luke 14:25-33

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 14<sup>th</sup> chapter.

C: *(sung)* **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish.’ Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: *(sung)* **Praise to You, O Christ.**

### Children’s Message

Sermon Hymn

“‘Come, Follow Me,’ the Savior Spake”

LSB 688 (v.1-2, 4-5)

**“Come, follow Me,” the Savior spake, “all in My way abiding.  
Deny yourselves, the world forsake. Obey My call and guiding.  
O bear the cross, whate’er betide. Take My example for your guide.”**

**"I am the light, I light the way, a godly life displaying.  
I bid you walk as in the day. I keep your feet from straying.  
I am the way, and well I show, how you must sojourn here below."**

**"I teach you how to shun and flee, what harms your soul's salvation.  
Your heart from ev'ry guile to free, from sin and its temptation.  
I am the refuge of the soul, and lead you to your heav'nly goal."**

**Then let us follow Christ, our Lord, and take the cross appointed.  
And, firmly clinging to His Word, in suff'ring be undaunted.  
For those who bear the battle's strain, the crown of heav'nly life obtain.**

Sermon

KNOWING THE COST

Confession of Faith

Nicene Creed

**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.**

Offertory (*sung*)

*Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19*

**What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?**

**I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.**

**I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.**

**I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,**

**In the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

Offering (*Greet those seated near you. You may say, "The peace of the Lord be with you."*)

*[If you are a guest, please feel under no obligation to give anything, but receive this worship service as our gift to you. For the members and friends of this congregation, our mission and ministry is dependent upon your generous giving, a significant act of our worship.]*

Offering Prayer

[LSB 781 (v.1-2)]

P: We give Thee but Thine own, whatever the gift may be. All that we have is Thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from Thee.

C: **May we Thy bounties thus, as stewards true receive. And gladly, as Thou blessest us, to Thee our first-fruits give! Amen.**

Recognition, Appreciation and ComMISSIONING of Sunday School Teachers

Sunday School Hymn "Lord Jesus Christ, the Children's Friend"

[LW 470]

**Lord Jesus Christ, the children's friend, to each of them your presence send.  
Call them by name and keep them true, in loving faith, dear Lord, to you.**

**That caring parents, gracious Lord, and faithful teachers find reward,  
In leading these, to whom you call, to find in Christ their all in all.**

**For by your Word we clearly see, that we have sinned continually.  
But show us too, forgiving Lord, your saving Gospel's great reward.**

**That all of us, your children dear, by Christ redeemed, may Christ revere.  
Lead us in joy that all we do, will witness to our love for you.**

**Then guard and keep us to the end, secure in you, our gracious friend.  
That in your heav'nly family, we sing your praise eternally.**



## Prayers

### ✝ THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION ✝

#### *VISITORS and MEMBERS*

*Please read the message inside the first page of this bulletin re: participation in the Lord's Supper.*

P: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

C: *(sung)* **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. *Colossians 3:1*

C: *(sung)* **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *Psalm 136*

C: *(sung)* **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P: It is truly good, 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:

Sanctus *(sung)*

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of pow'r and might. Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord's Prayer

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**ALL: 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 Our Lord

*Mt. 26:26-28; Mk. 14:22-24; Lk. 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-25*

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  $\text{✠}$  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 is my  $\text{B}$  blood of the new testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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

*John 20:19*

C: *(sung)* A - men.

Agnus Dei *(sung)*

*John 1:29*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Grant us peace.**

### Distribution Hymns

"Shepherd of Tender Youth"

LSB 864

**Shepherd of tender youth, guiding in love and truth, through devious ways.**

**Christ, our triumphant king, we come Your name to sing,**

**And here our children bring, to join Your praise.**

**You are the holy Lord, O all subduing Word, healer of strife.**

**Yourself You did abase, that from sin's deep disgrace,**

**You so might save our race, and give us life.**

**You are the great High Priest. You have prepared the feast, of holy love.**

**And in our mortal pain, none calls on You in vain.**

**Our plea do not disdain. Help from above.**

**O ever be our guide, our shepherd, and our pride, our staff and song.**

**Jesus, O Christ of God, by Your enduring Word,**

**Lead us where You have trod. Make our faith strong.**

**So now, and till we die, sound we Your praises high, and joyful sing:**

**Infants and all the throng, who to the Church belong,**

**Unite to swell the song, to Christ our king!**

**Children of the heav’nly Father, safely in His bosom gather.  
Nestling bird nor star in heaven, such a refuge e’er was given.**

**God His own doth tend and nourish. In His holy courts they flourish.  
From all evil things He spares them. In His mighty arms He bears them.**

**Neither life nor death shall ever, from the Lord His children sever.  
Unto them His grace He showeth, and their sorrows all He knoweth.**

**Though He giveth or He taketh, God His children ne’er forsaketh.  
His the loving purpose solely, to preserve them pure and holy.**

**When I survey the wondrous cross, on which the Prince of Glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.**

**Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ, my God.  
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.**

**See, from His head, His hands, His feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down!  
Did e’er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?**

**Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a tribute far too small.  
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all!**

**Let us ever walk with Jesus, follow His example pure,  
Through a world that would deceive us, and to sin our spirits lure.  
Onward in His footsteps treading, pilgrims here, our home above,  
Full of faith and hope and love, let us do the Father’s bidding,  
Faithful Lord, with me abide. I shall follow where You guide.**

**Let us suffer here with Jesus, and with patience bear our cross.  
Joy will follow all our sadness. Where He is, there is no loss.  
Though today we sow no laughter, we shall reap celestial joy,  
All discomforts that annoy, shall give way to mirth hereafter.  
Jesus, here I share Your woe. Help me there Your joy to know.**

**Let us gladly die with Jesus, since by death He conquered death.  
He will free us from destruction, give to us immortal breath.  
Let us mortify all passion, that would lead us into sin.  
And the grave that shuts us in, shall but prove the gate to heaven.  
Jesus, here with You I die, there to live with You on high.**

**Let us also live with Jesus. He has risen from the dead,  
That to life we may awaken. Jesus, You are now our head.  
We are Your own living members. Where You live, there we shall be.  
In Your presence constantly, living there with You forever.  
Jesus, let me faithful be. Life eternal grant to me.**

### **Song of Thanksgiving**

**“Thank the Lord”**

*Psalm 100*

**Thank the Lord and sing His praise. Tell everyone what He has done. Let all  
who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His promises  
and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**P:** Let us pray.

**ALL:** 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. Amen.

### **Benediction**

*Numbers 6:24-26*

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

**C:** *(sung)* **A - men, A - men, A - - men.**



**Christ be my Leader by night as by day,  
Safe through the darkness, for He is the way.  
Gladly I follow, my future His care.  
Darkness is daylight, when Jesus is there.**

**Christ be my Teacher in age as in youth,  
Drifting or doubting, for He is the truth.  
Grant me to trust Him, though shifting as sand,  
Doubt cannot daunt me, in Jesus I stand.**

**Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife.  
Death cannot hold me, for He is the life.  
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain,  
Can touch my salvation, with Jesus I reign.**

**CLC MISSION STATEMENT:** “We are a FAMILY LIVING and GROWING in God’s Word,  
sharing God’s love by TELLING others about Christ and SERVING them in His name.”