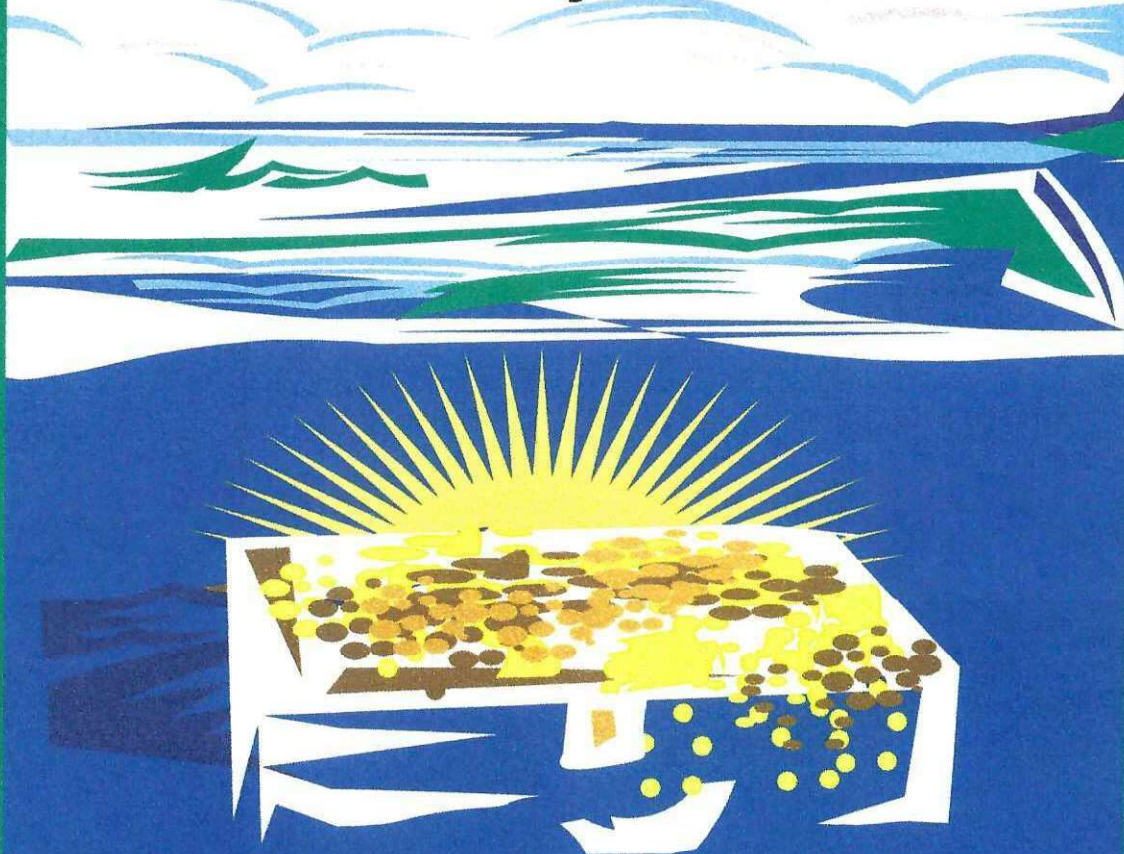


Christ Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
Hillsboro, Texas

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.”



Matthew 13:44, NRSV

9th Sunday after Pentecost
GOD'S "HIDDEN" TREASURE
July 26, 2026

TODAY'S MESSAGE: GOD'S "HIDDEN" TREASURE

Today's message from God's Word is about treasure; a treasure that is not easily seen by the people of this world. A treasure that remains hidden from the eyes of sinful humanity until God, through His grace and mercy, reveals it to each of us through His written and spoken Word (and when His Word is combined with the water of holy baptism). Today's message is also about how this treasure, once revealed to us, lives in us. And once this treasure lives in us, we in turn become a treasure to the one who gave His treasure to us. Having received God's greatest treasure, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who gave His life so that we could be His for all of eternity, God's Word reminds us that we are God's treasured possession.



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 Three” from LSB p.184]

Please silence – or turn off – your phones and refrain from using them during the service.

Welcome

Opening Hymn

“O Bless the Lord, My Soul”

LSB 814

**O bless the Lord, my soul! Let all within me join,
And aid my tongue to bless His name, whose favors are divine.**

**O bless the Lord, my soul, nor let His mercies lie,
Forgotten in unthankfulness, and without praises die!**

**'Tis He forgives thy sins. 'Tis He relieves thy pain.
'Tis He that heals thy sicknesses, and makes thee young again.**

**He crowns thy life with love, when ransomed from the grave.
He that redeemed my soul from hell, hath sov'reign pow'r to save.**

**He fills the poor with good. He gives the suff'ers rest.
The Lord hath judgments for the proud, and justice for th' oppressed.**

**His wondrous works and ways, He made by Moses known,
But sent the world His truth and grace, by His beloved Son.**

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

Hebrews 10:22; 1 John 1:8-9

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

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

Psalm 124:8

C: *(sung)* **Who made heaven and earth.**

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

Psalm 32:5

C: *(sung)* **And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**

P: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to you that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against you by thought, word, and deed; therefore we flee for refuge to your boundless mercy, seeking and imploring your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

ALL: O most merciful God, since you have given your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy on us and for his sake grant us forgiveness of all our sins; and by your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of you and of your will and true obedience to your Word, to the end that by your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us and has given his only Son to die for us and for his sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on his name, he has called them the children of God and has promised them his Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. *John 1:12; Mark 16:16*

ALL: Grant this, Lord, to us all.

ALL: (sung) A - - - men.

Entrance Psalm [ESV]

Psalm 125

P: Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever.

C: As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds his people, from this time forth and forevermore.

P: For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest on the land allotted to the righteous, lest the righteous stretch out their hands to do wrong.

C: Do good, O LORD, to those who are good, and to those who are upright in their hearts!

P: But those who turn aside to their crooked ways the LORD will lead away with evildoers!

C: Peace be upon Israel!

P: Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever.

C: As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds his people, from this time forth and forevermore.

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.

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness.
And all these things shall be added unto you! Allelu, alleluia!**

**Ask and it shall be given unto you, seek and ye shall find.
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia!**

**Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word,
That proceeds from the mouth of the Lord. Allelu, alleluia!**

Opening Prayer

ALL: Gracious God, you make your power known by showing mercy. Grant us your grace always to enjoy your heavenly treasure, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Old Testament Reading [ESV]

Deuteronomy 7:6-9

“You are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.”

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: We live by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord. Deut. 8:3; Matt. 4:4

Epistle Reading [ESV]

Romans 8:28-39

We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died – more than that, who was raised – who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **We live by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.** Deut. 8:3; Matt. 4:4

Gospel Reading [ESV]

Matthew 13:44-52

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 13th chapter.

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

[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

"Have you understood all these things?" They said to him, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Children's Message

Sermon Hymn

"All Depends on Our Possessing"

LSB 732 (v.1-3)

**All depends on our possessing, God's abundant grace and blessing,
Though all earthly wealth depart. They who trust with faith unshaken,
By their God are not forsaken, and will keep a dauntless heart.**

**He who to this day has fed me, and to many joys has led me,
Is and ever shall be mine. He who ever gently schools me,
He who daily guides and rules me, will remain my help divine.**

**Many spend their lives in fretting, over trifles and in getting,
Things that have no solid ground. I shall strive to win a treasure,
That will bring me lasting pleasure, and that now is seldom found.**

Sermon

GOD'S "HIDDEN" TREASURE

Sermon Hymn

"All Depends on Our Possessing"

LSB 732 (v.4-6)

**When with sorrow I am stricken, hope anew my heart will quicken.
All my longing shall be stilled. To His loving kindness tender,
Soul and body I surrender. For on God alone I build.**

**Well He knows what best to grant me. All the longing hopes that haunt me,
Joy and sorrow, have their day. I shall doubt His wisdom never.
As God wills, so be it ever. I commit to Him my way.**

**If my days on earth He lengthen, God my weary soul will strengthen.
All my trust in Him I place. Earthly wealth is not abiding,
Like a stream away is gliding. Safe I anchor in His grace.**

Confession of Faith

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.

Offertory *(sung)*

Psalm 51:10-12

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.

Amen.

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 Christ, the mission and ministry of this congregation 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.**

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 with thy spirit.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

Colossians 3:1

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

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

Psalms 136

C: *(sung)* **It is good and right so to do.**

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 Sabaoth. Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He. Blessed is He. Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna. Hosanna. 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 $\text{\textcircled{A}}$ 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 $\text{\textcircled{A}}$ 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.**

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace.... A - - - - - men.

Distribution Hymns

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

LSB 725

**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.**

“Rejoice, My Heart, be Glad and Sing”

LSB 737

**Rejoice, my heart, be glad and sing, a cheerful trust maintain.
For God, the source of everything, your portion shall remain.**

**He is your treasure, He your joy, your life and light and Lord.
Your counselor when doubts annoy, your shield and great reward.**

**Why spend the day in blank despair, in restless thought the night?
On your Creator cast your care. He makes your burdens light.**

**Did not His love and truth and pow’r, guard ev’ry childhood day?
And did He not in threat’ning hour, turn dreaded ills away?**

**He only will with patience chide, His rod falls gently down.
And all your sins He casts aside, in ocean depths to drown.**

**His wisdom never plans in vain, nor falters nor mistakes.
All that His counsels may ordain, a blessed ending makes.**

**Upon your lips, then lay your hand, and trust His guiding love.
Then like a rock your peace shall stand, here and in heav'n above.**

"Jesus, Priceless Treasure"

LSB 743

**Jesus, priceless treasure. Fount of purest pleasure. Truest friend to me.
Ah, how long in anguish, shall my spirit languish, yearning, Lord for Thee?
Thou art mine, O Lamb divine! I will suffer naught to hide Thee.
Naught I ask beside Thee.**

**In Thine arms I rest me. Foes who would molest me, cannot reach me here.
Though the earth be shaking, ev'ry heart be quaking, Jesus calms my fear.
Lightnings flash and thunders crash. Yet, though sin and hell assail me,
Jesus will not fail me.**

**Satan, I defy thee. Death, I now decry thee. Fear, I bid thee cease.
World, thou shalt not harm me, nor thy threats alarm me, while I sing of peace.
God's great pow'r guards ev'ry hour. Earth and all its depths adore Him,
Silent bow before Him.**

**Hence, all earthly treasure! Jesus is my pleasure. Jesus is my choice.
Hence, all empty glory! Naught to me thy story, told with tempting voice.
Pain or loss, or shame or cross, shall not from my Savior move me,
Since He designs to love me.**

**Evil world, I leave thee. Thou canst not deceive me. Thine appeal is vain.
Sin that once did blind me, get thee far behind me, come not forth again.
Past thy hour, O pride and pow'r. Sinful life, thy bonds I sever.
Leave thee now forever.**

**Hence, all fear and sadness! For the Lord of gladness, Jesus, enters in.
Those who love the Father, though the storms may gather, still have peace within.
Yea, whate'er I here must bear, Thou art still my purest pleasure,
Jesus, priceless treasure!**

**O Jesus, blessed Lord, to Thee, my heartfelt thanks forever be,
Who hast so lovingly bestowed, on me Thy body and Thy blood.**

**Break forth, my soul, for joy and say: What wealth is come to me this day!
My Savior dwells within my heart: How blest am I! How good Thou art!**

P: Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

Psalm 107:1

C: *(sung)* **And His mercy endureth forever.**

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.**

P: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C: *(sung)* **And with thy spirit.**

P: Bless we the Lord.

Psalm 103:1

C: *(sung)* **Thanks be to God.**

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.**

Closing Hymn

“What is the World to Me”

LSB 730

**What is the world to me, with all its vaunted pleasure,
When You, and You alone, Lord Jesus, are my treasure!
You only, dearest Lord, my soul's delight shall be.
You are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!**

**The world seeks to be praised, and honored by the mighty,
Yet never once reflects, that they are frail and flighty.
But what I truly prize, above all things is He,
My Jesus, He alone. What is the world to me!**

**The world seeks after wealth, and all that mammon offers,
Yet never is content, though gold should fill its coffers.
I have a higher good, content with it I'll be:
My Jesus is my wealth. What is the world to me!**

**What is the world to me! My Jesus is my treasure.
My life, my health, my wealth. My friend, my love, my pleasure.
My joy, my crown, my all. My bliss eternally.
Once more then, I declare: What is the world to me!**

**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."**