Christ Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod Hillsboro, Texas

Young men and maidens, old men and children. Let them praise the name of the LORD.



Psalm 148:12-13

22nd Sunday after Pentecost CHILDREN OF THE LIVING GOD November 9, 2025

TODAY'S MESSAGE: CHILDREN OF THE LIVING GOD

Today is the "22nd Sunday after Pentecost" and also the "3rd Last Sunday in the Church Year". The new church year will begin on November 30th, with the "1st Sunday in Advent". Today's message from God's Word is about who God's Son Jesus Christ is, and who we are when we "believe in" and "belong to" Him. Jesus says that the Lord is not the God of the dead but of the living, and Jesus says that God's children are "children of the resurrection". Today's readings, especially today's Gospel Reading, remind us that to "believe in" and to "belong to" Jesus means that we have received the blessings of His resurrection and even though we die, we will live forever. Indeed, we are children of the living God. Praise His name forever!



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 <u>refrain from using them</u> during the service.

Welcome

Opening Hymn

"All People that on Earth Do Dwell"

LSB 791

All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice. Him serve with mirth, His praise forthtell. Come ye before Him and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed. Without our aid He did us make. We are His folk, He doth us feed, and for His sheep He doth us take.

O enter then His gates with praise. Approach with joy His courts unto. Praise, laud and bless His name always, for it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good. His mercy is forever sure. His truth at all times firmly stood, and shall from age to age endure.

To Father, Son and Holy Ghost. The God whom heav'n and earth adore. From us and from the angel host, be praise and glory evermore.

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 [NIV]

Psalm 148

P: Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise him in the heights above.

C: Praise him, all his angels, praise him, all his heavenly hosts.

P: Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars.

C: Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the skies.

P: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.

C: He set them in place for ever and ever; he gave a decree that will never pass away.

- P: Praise the Lord from the earth, you great sea creatures and all ocean depths, lightning and hail, snow and clouds, stormy winds that do his bidding, you mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars, wild animals and all cattle, small creatures and flying birds, kings of the earth and all nations, you princes and all rulers on earth, young men and maidens, old men and children.
- C: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his splendor is above the earth and the heavens.
- P: He has raised up for his people a horn (the strong one, the Messiah, the Christ, who is our King), the praise of all his saints, of Israel, the people close to his heart.

ALL: Praise the Lord!

Rise, ye children of salvation, all who cleave to Christ, the Head. Wake, arise, O mighty nation, ere the Foe on Zion tread. He draws nigh and would defy, all the hosts of God Most High.

Saints and heroes long before us, firmly on this ground have stood. See their banner waving o'er us, conqu'rors thro' the Savior's blood. Ground we hold whereon of old, fought the faithful and the bold.

Fighting, we shall be victorious, by the blood of Christ, our Lord. On our foreheads, bright and glorious, shines the witness of His Word. Spear and shield on battlefield, His great name we cannot yield.

When His servants stand before Him, each receiving his reward. When His saints in light adore Him, giving glory to the Lord. "Victory!" Our song shall be, like the thunder of the sea.

Opening Prayer

P: Let us pray.

ALL: God of Abraham, Issac and Jacob, you are not the God of the dead, but of the living. Rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit, keeping us ever mindful of the resurrection of the dead and of your just judgment, and ready to dwell with you forever; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Old Testament Reading [ESV]

Exodus 3:1-15

Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. And Moses said, "I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned." When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." And he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the LORD said, "I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. And now, behold, the cry of the people of Israel has come to me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" He said, "But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'I AM has sent me to you." God also said to Moses, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.' This is my name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations."

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading [ESV]

2 Thessalonians 2:1-8, 13-17

Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we ask you, brothers, not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by a spirit or a spoken word, or a letter seeming to be from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come. Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God. Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? And you know what is restraining him now so that he may be revealed in his time. For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work. Only he who now restrains it will do so until he is out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming.

But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by four letter. Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading [ESV]

Luke 20:27-40

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 20th chapter.

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

There came to Jesus some Sadducees, those who deny that there is a resurrection, and they asked him a question, saying, "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies, having a wife but no children, the man must take the widow and raise up offspring for his brother. Now there were seven brothers. The first took a wife and died without children. And the second and the third took her and likewise all seven left no children and died. Afterward the woman also died. In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had her as wife."

And Jesus said to them, "The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage, but those who are considered worthy to attain to that age and to the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage, for they cannot die anymore, because they are equal to angels and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection. But that the dead are raised, even Moses showed, in the passage about the bush, where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. Now he is not God of the dead, but of the living, for all live to him." Then some of the scribes answered, "Teacher, you have spoken well." For they no longer dared to ask him any question.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Children's Message

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!

Let all who hear, now to His temple draw near, joining in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining. Have you not seen, all that is needful has been, sent by His gracious ordaining?

Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously, made you, Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed you. What need or grief, ever has failed of relief? Wings of His mercy did shade you.

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you; Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you. Ponder anew, what the Almighty can do, as with His love He befriends you.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him! All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him! Let the "Amen", sound from His people again; gladly forever adore Him!

Sermon

CHILDREN OF THE LIVING GOD

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 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.

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.

Psalm 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 . . .

Sanctus (sung)

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

Holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth. Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

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

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

John 20:19

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

Agnus Dei (sung)

John 1:29

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

"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 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.

"Christ, the Word of God Incarnate"

LSB 540

Christ, the Word of God incarnate, Lord and Son of Abraham.
Christ, the radiance of the Father, perfect God, the great I AM.
Christ, the light, You shine unvanquished, Light of life You bring to all.
Light our path with Your own presence, grant us grace to heed Your call.

Christ, the living bread from heaven, food for body, food for soul. Christ, the manna daily given, nourish, strengthen, make us whole. Feed us with the food of heaven, foretaste of the feast to be. Quench our thirst with living water, springing up eternally.

Christ, the shoot that springs triumphant, from the stump of Jesse's tree. Christ, true vine, You nurture branches, to bear fruit abundantly. Graft us into You, O Savior. Prune our hearts so we remain Fruitful branches in Your vineyard, till eternal life we gain.

Christ, our good and faithful shepherd, watching all Your lambs and sheep. Christ, the gate that guards the sheepfold, never failing vigil keep. When we stray, Good Shepherd, seek us, find us, lift us, bear us home. Lamb of God, our shepherd, keep us. Let us hear Your voice alone.

Christ, the way that leads unfailing, to the Father's home on high. Christ the truth that frees the captive. Christ, the life that cannot die. Mediator to the Father, Sacrifice and great High Priest: Lead us to Your heav'nly mansions, there to share Your wedding feast.

STAND Christ, the Alpha and Omega. Christ, the firstborn from the dead. Christ, the life and resurrection. Christ, the Church's glorious head: Praise and thanks and adoration, and unending worship be, To the Father and the Spirit, and to You eternally.

Nunc Dimittis (sung)

Luke 2:29-32

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word. For mine eyes have seen Thy Salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a Light to lighten the Gentiles and the Glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

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

Psalm 107:1

C: (sung) And His mercy endureth forever.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

ALL: God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank you that for His sake you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament and we ask you not to forsake your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that we would serve you at all times; 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.

Go, My children, with My blessing, never alone. Waking, sleeping, I am with you. You are My own. In My love's baptismal river, I have made you Mine forever. Go, My children, with My blessing. You are My Own.

Go, My children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.

Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.

Here you heard My dear Son's story. Here you touched Him, saw His glory.

Go, My children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.

Go, My children, fed and nourished, closer to Me. Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free. Here My Spirit's power filled you. Here His tender comfort stilled you. Go, My children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.

I the Lord will bless and keep you, and give you peace.

I the Lord will smile upon you, and give you peace.

I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter and Brother.

Go, My children, I will keep you, and give you peace.

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."