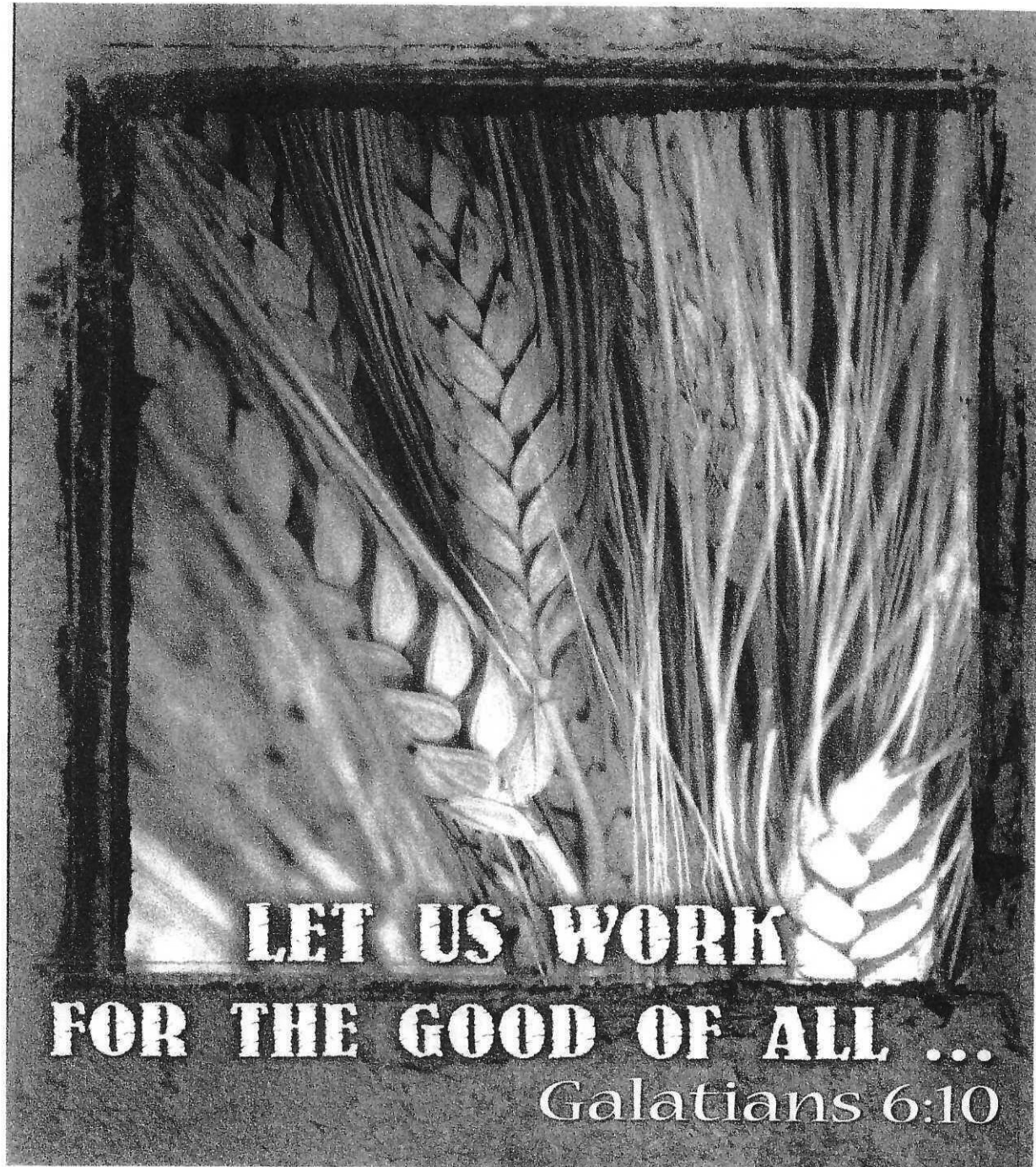


# **Christ Lutheran Church**

Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod  
Hillsboro, Texas



4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**FAITHFUL WITNESSES**

July 6, 2025

## TODAY'S MESSAGE: FAITHFUL WITNESSES

We know the twelve disciples (Peter, James, John, Thomas, Matthew, Judas, etc.). In Luke, chapter 10, Jesus sent out, not the twelve, but seventy-two of His disciples. We are not given the names of those disciples, but they were sent to proclaim the most important message of all time; a message that was and still is rejected by many people. We are known by relatively few people but, through our baptism and the Word of God, we are called to proclaim the most important message of all time. Like those seventy-two disciples, we are called to proclaim God's words of warning and judgment as well as His words of forgiveness and salvation in Jesus' name. We are faithful witnesses as we proclaim Jesus Christ, His Word (Law and Gospel) and His cross. So let's go! "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few."



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

*Psalm 118:24*

P: This is the day the LORD has made.

C: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

### Opening Hymn

“Before You, Lord, We Bow”

LSB 966

**Before You, Lord, we bow, our God who reigns above,  
And rules the world below, boundless in pow’r and love.  
Our thanks we bring, in joy and praise, our hearts we raise, to You our King!**

**The nation You have blest, may well Your love declare,  
From foes and fears at rest, protected by Your care.  
For this bright day, for this fair land – gifts of Your hand – our thanks we pay.**

**May ev’ry mountain height, each vale and forest green,  
Shine in Your Word’s pure light, and its rich fruits be seen!  
May ev’ry tongue, be tuned to praise, and join to raise, a grateful song.**

**Earth, hear your Maker’s voice. Your great Redeemer own.  
Believe, obey, rejoice, and worship Him alone.  
Cast down your pride, your sin deplore, and bow before the Crucified.**

**And when in pow’r He comes, oh, may our native land,  
From all its rending tombs, send forth a glorious band,  
A countless throng, with joy to sing, to heav’n’s high King, salvation’s song!**

### 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: 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 126

P: When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

C: **Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy.**

P: Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."

C: **The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad.**

P: Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like streams in the Negeb!

C: **Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy!**

P: He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.

C: **The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad.**

**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

"Saints of God, the Dawn is Brightening"

[TLH 502]

**Saints of God, the dawn is bright'ning, token of our coming Lord.  
O'er the earth the field is whit'ning, louder rings the Master's word:  
Pray for reapers, pray for reapers, in the harvest of the Lord!**



**Now, O Lord, fulfil Thy pleasure, breathe upon Thy chosen band,  
And with Pentecostal measure, send forth reapers o'er our land.  
Faithful reapers, faithful reapers, gath'ring sheaves for Thy right hand.**

**Soon shall end the time of weeping, soon the reaping time will come.  
Heav'n and earth together keeping, God's eternal harvest-home.  
Saints and angels, saints and angels, shout the world's great harvest-home.**

### Salutation

*2 Timothy 4:22*

**P:** The Lord be with you.

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

### Opening Prayer

**ALL:** Lord Jesus, you sent your disciples to work in the harvest fields, proclaiming the good news of your kingdom. Send us to work in the harvest fields as witnesses of your salvation, proclaiming your Word to all people. And grant us the joy of seeing the seeds of faith take root and bring forth much fruit for your glory; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### Old Testament Reading [ESV]

Isaiah 55:6-13

Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. 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, so 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. 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. Instead 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.

**R:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ. For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. For each will have to bear his own load. Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches. Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap a harvest, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God. From now on let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brothers. Amen.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Reading [ESV]

Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go. And he said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

"Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. Carry no moneybag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace be to this house!' And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if not, it will return to you. And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages. Do not go from house to house."

“Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you. Heal the sick in it and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’ But whenever you enter a town and they do not receive you, go into its streets and say, ‘Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet we wipe off against you. Nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near.’ . . . The one who hears you hears me, and the one who rejects you rejects me, and the one who rejects me rejects him who sent me.”

The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!” And he said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Children’s Message

### Sermon Hymn

“Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling”

LSB 827

**Hark, the voice of Jesus calling, “Who will go and work today?”  
“Fields are white and harvests waiting. Who will bear the sheaves away?”  
Loud and long the Master calleth. Rich reward He offers thee.  
Who will answer, gladly saying, “Here am I, send me, send me”?**

**Some take up His task in morning, to their Lord responding soon.  
Some are called in heat of midday. Others late in afternoon.  
Even as the sun is setting, some are sent into the fields.  
There to gather in the bounty, that God’s Word so richly yields.**

**For as rain and snow from heaven, water seeds in dusty soil,  
Causing them to bud and flower, giving bread to those who toil.  
So the Lord sends forth His promise, words of life and joy and peace –  
Never void to Him returning, bearing fruit with great increase.**

**Hearken to the Lord whose coming, marks the time when grace shall end.  
When with His angelic reapers, He in glory shall descend.  
Soon the night, the final harvest. Soon the time for work shall cease.  
Then the souls His grace has garnered, shall enjoy His Sabbath peace.**



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.")*

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 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 ✠ 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  $\text{✠}$  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

"Christ the Eternal Lord"

LSB 829

**Christ the eternal Lord, whose promise here we claim,  
Whose gifts of grace are freely poured, on all who name Your name.  
With thankfulness and praise, we stand before Your throne,  
Intent to serve You all our days, and make Your glory known.**

**Christ the unchanging Word, to ev'ry passing age,  
Whose timeless teachings still are heard, set forth on Scripture's page.  
Transform our thought and mind, enlighten all who read,  
Within Your Word by faith to find, the bread of life indeed.**

**Christ the redeeming Son, who shares our human birth,  
And by His death salvation won, for ev'ry child of earth.  
Inspire our hearts, we pray, to tell Your love abroad,  
That all may honor Christ today, and follow Him as Lord.**

**Christ the unfading Light, of everlasting day,  
Our Morning Star in splendor bright, the Life, the Truth, the Way.  
That light of truth You give, to servants as to friends,  
Your way to walk, Your life to live, till earth's brief journey ends.**

**Christ the ascended King, exalted high above,  
Whose praise unending ages sing, whom yet unseen we love.  
When mortal life is past, Your voice from heaven's throne  
Shall call Your children home at last, to know as we are known.**



**Spread the reign of God the Lord, spoken, written, mighty Word.  
Ev’rywhere His creatures call, to His heav’nly banquet hall.**

**Tell how God the Father’s will, made the world, upholds it still.  
How His own dear Son He gave, us from sin and death to save.**

**Tell of our Redeemer’s grace, who, to save our human race,  
And to pay rebellion’s price, gave Himself as sacrifice.**

**Tell of God the Spirit giv’n, now to guide us on to heav’n.  
Strong and holy, just and true, working both to will and do.**

**Enter, mighty Word, the field. Ripe the promise of its yield.  
But the reapers, oh how few, for the work there is to do!**

**Lord of harvest, great and kind, rouse to action heart and mind.  
Let the gath’ring nations all, see Your light and heed Your call.**

**On Galilee’s high mountain, Christ gave the great command,  
In words of strength and promise, which all can understand:  
“All pow’r to Me is given, to do what I shall choose.”  
“Therefore I send My children, their witness I will use.”**

**The Lord who, born of Mary, came down as man and died,  
Who preached to all who listened, for us was crucified –  
This Lord, our living brother, in pow’r at God’s right hand,  
Has chosen us to carry, His truth to ev’ry land.**

**His strength within my weakness, will make me bold to say,  
How His redeeming power, transforms my stubborn clay.  
His touch of fire ignites me, with courage I am sent.  
My tongue-tied silence broken, with grace made eloquent.**

**And not alone to nations, in far away retreats,  
But ev'rywhere I broadcast, His love through crowded streets.  
The lives that my life touches, however great or small –  
Let them through me see Jesus, who served and saved us all.**

**That ev'ryone He chooses, for reasons of His own,  
Will find in Christ his calling, to live His love alone.  
His presence always leads us, till time no more shall be.  
Christ's strength, His love, His comfort, give us His victory.**

**[STAND] Lord, gather all Your children, wherever they may be,  
And lead them on to heaven, to live eternally.  
With You, our loving Father, and Christ, our brother dear,  
Whose Spirit guards and gives us, the joy to persevere.**

## **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:** God our Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent your 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 be enabled to serve you constantly; 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.**

**Sent forth by God’s blessing, our true faith confessing, the people of God from his dwelling take leave. The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended, the fruits of this service in all who believe. The seed of his teaching, receptive souls reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for all. His grace did invite us, his love shall unite us, to work for God’s kingdom and answer his call.**

**With praise and thanksgiving, to God ever-living, the tasks of our ev’ryday life we will face. Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring, embracing his children of each tribe and race. With your feast you feed us. With your light now lead us. Unite us as one in this life that we share. Then may all the living, with praise and thanksgiving, give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.**

**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.”