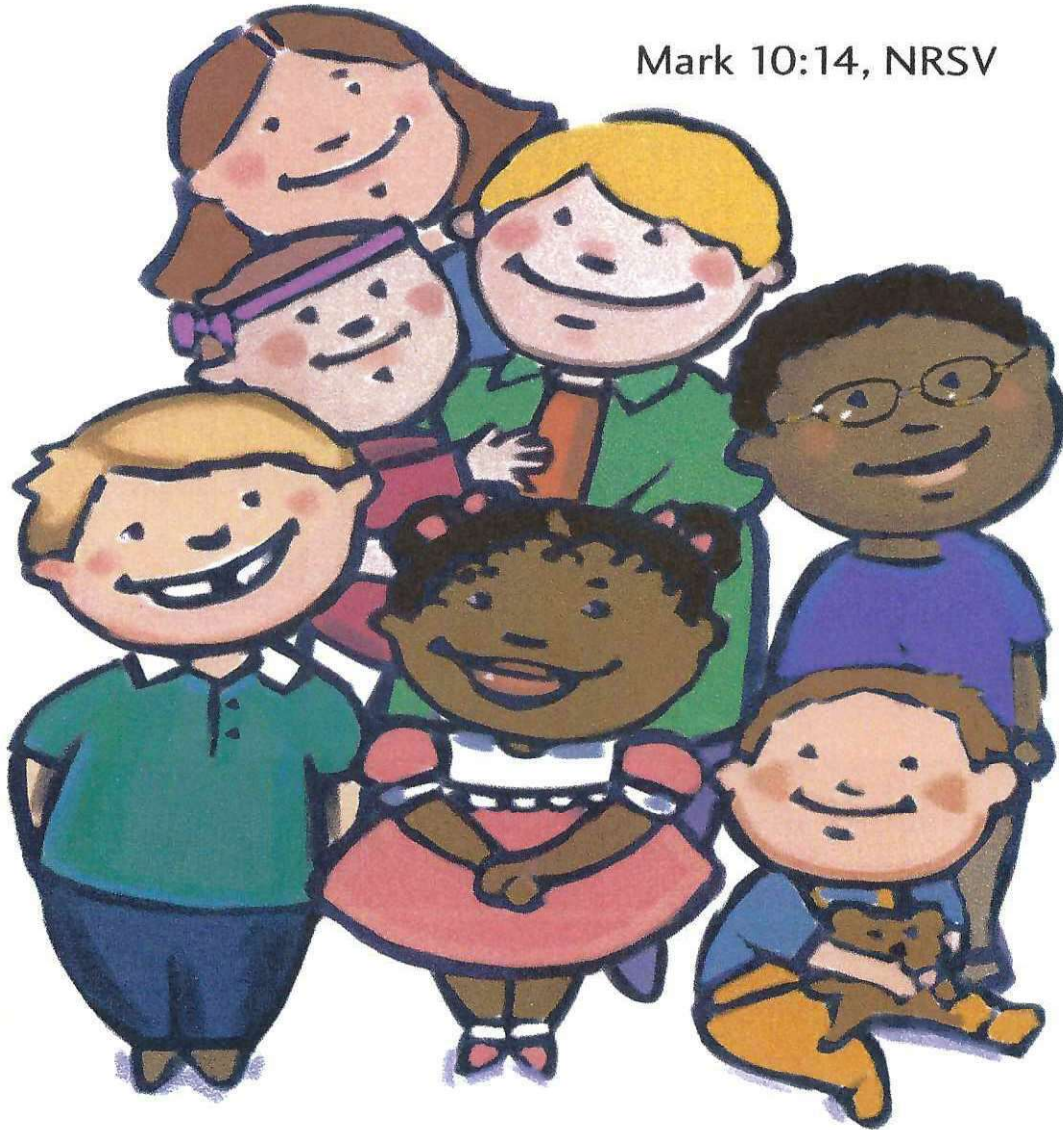


Christ Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
Hillsboro, Texas

Let the little children come to me ...
it is to such as these that the
kingdom of God belongs.

Mark 10:14, NRSV



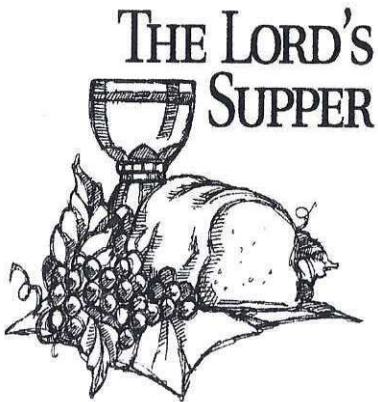
Sunday School Rally Day

PREPARED FOR LIFE

September 13, 2026

TODAY'S MESSAGE: PREPARED FOR LIFE

Today, we recognize, show our appreciation to, and commission our Sunday School teachers. Our Sunday School teachers make it possible for our children and youth to listen to God's Word, the Bible, and so to learn about everything that God has done for them, and how much He loves them, through His Son, Jesus Christ. But that which began in baptism, namely our faith, and that which is also taught to our children in Sunday School, needs to be sustained in all of us throughout our entire lives. For the sake of our faith and therefore our eternal salvation, all of us need to be constantly listening to, reading, studying and learning from God's Word. Through His Word, God prepares His children for life, even eternal life.



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

Announcements

Opening Hymn

“Father Welcomes”

LSB 605

REFRAIN

**Father welcomes all His children, to His fam’ly through His Son.
Father giving His salvation. Life forever has been won.**

**Little children, come to Me, for My kingdom is of these.
Life and love I have to give, mercy for your sin.**

REFRAIN

**In the water, in the Word, in His promise, be assured:
Those who are baptized and believe, shall be born again.**

REFRAIN

**Let us daily die to sin. Let us daily rise with Him.
Walk in the love of Christ our Lord. Live in the peace of God.**

REFRAIN

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 78:1-7*

P: Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth!

P: I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, things that we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us.

C: **We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.**

P: He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children, that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children.

C: **So that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments.**

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.

**Let children hear the mighty deeds, which God performed of old,
Which in our younger days we saw, and which our parents told.**

**So make to them His glories known, His works of power and grace.
And we'll convey His wonders down, through every rising race.**

**Our sons and daughters we shall tell, and they again to theirs,
That generations yet unborn, may teach them to their heirs.**

**O teach them with all diligence, the truths of God's own Word,
To place in Him their confidence, to fear and trust their Lord.**

**To learn that in our God alone, their hope securely stands,
That they may never doubt His love, but walk in His commands.**

Salutation

2 Timothy 4:22

P: The Lord be with you.

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

Opening Prayer

P: Let us pray.

ALL: Almighty God, the foundation of all wisdom, enlighten us by your Holy Spirit as we teach and as we learn, so that rejoicing in the knowledge and in the truth of your Word, we may worship you and serve you from generation to generation; through 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 6:1-9

Now this is the commandment – the statutes and the rules – that the LORD your God commanded me to teach you, that you may do them in the land to which you are going over, to possess it, that you may fear the LORD your God, you and your son and your son's son, by keeping all his statutes and his commandments, which I command you, all the days of your life, and that your days may be long. Hear therefore, O Israel, and be careful to do them, that it may go well with you, and that you may multiply greatly, as the LORD, the God of your fathers, has promised you, in a land flowing with milk and honey.

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

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]

Ephesians 6:1-4

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother" (this is the first commandment with a promise), "that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land." Fathers (and mothers), do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the 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]

Mark 10:13-16

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 10th chapter.

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

And they were bringing children to him that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God." Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Children's Message

**Oh, blest the house, whate’er befall, where Jesus Christ is all in all!
A home that is not wholly His – how sad and poor and dark it is!**

**Oh, blest that house where faith is found, and all in hope and love abound.
They trust their God and serve Him still, and do in all His holy will!**

**Oh, blest the parents who give heed, unto their children’s foremost need,
And weary not of care or cost, may none to them and heav’n be lost!**

**Oh, blest that house, it prospers well. In peace and joy the parents dwell.
And in their children’s lives is shown, how richly God can bless His own.**

**Then here will I and mine today, a solemn promise make and say:
Though all the world forsake His Word, I and my house will serve the Lord!**

Sermon

PREPARED FOR LIFE

Baptism of Sofia Grace Nemec

Confession of Faith

Apostles’ Creed

P: Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?

C: **I do renounce them.**

P: Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?

C: **Yes, I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son?

C: **Yes, I believe 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.**

P: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

C: **Yes, 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.**

Baptism Blessing, Candle and Prayer

Welcome to the Newly Baptized

- P: Through baptism, God has added Sofia Grace Nemec to his own people to declare the wonderful deeds of our Savior, who has called us out of the darkness and into his marvelous light.
- C: **We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as a fellow member of the body of Christ, as a child of the same Heavenly Father, to work with us in his kingdom.**

Baptism Hymn

"See This Wonder in the Making"

LSB 593

**See this wonder in the making: God Himself this child is taking,
As His lamb safe in His keeping, His to be, awake or sleeping.**

**Miracle each time it happens, as the door to heaven opens,
And the Father beams, "Beloved, heir of gifts a king would covet!"**

**Far more tender than a mother, far more caring than a father,
God, into Your arms we place her, with Your love and peace embrace her.**

**Here we bring a child of nature. Home we take a newborn creature.
Now God's precious son or daughter, born again by Word and water.**

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

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, 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 $\text{\textcircled{X}}$ 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 $\mathfrak{A}$ 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.

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!**

**I am Jesus' little lamb, ever glad at heart I am.
For my Shepherd gently guides me, knows my need and well provides me.
Loves me ev'ry day the same, even calls me by my name.**

**Day by day, at home, away, Jesus is my staff and stay.
When I hunger, Jesus feeds me, into pleasant pastures leads me.
When I thirst, He bids me go, where the quiet waters flow.**

**Who so happy as I am, even now the Shepherd's lamb?
And when my short life is ended, by His angel host attended,
He shall fold me to His breast, there within His arms to rest.**

**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.**

**How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He has said,
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?**

**"Fear not! I am with you, O be not dismayed,
For I am your God and will still give you aid.
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand."**

**“The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not, desert to his foes.
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I’ll never, no never, no never forsake!”**

**“When through fiery trials your pathway will lie,
My grace, all sufficient, will be your supply.
The flames will not hurt you, I only design
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.”**

**“Throughout all their lifetime My people will prove,
My sov’ reign, eternal, unchangeable love.
And then, when gray hairs will their temples adorn,
Like lambs they will still in My bosom be borne.”**

Song of Thanksgiving

“Feed Thy Children”

LSB 774

**Feed Thy children, God most holy. Comfort sinners poor and lowly.
O Thou Bread of Life from heaven, bless the food Thou here hast given!
As these gifts the body nourish, may our souls in graces flourish.
Till with saints in heav’nly splendor, at Thy feast due thanks we render.**

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.**

**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.**

WELCOME TO CHRIST LUTHERAN! 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.
