



**CHRIST
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
&
PRESCHOOL**

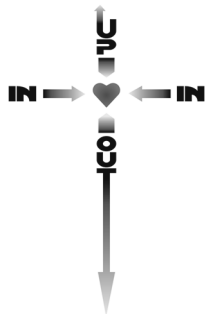
*A church of the
Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod*

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AS WE GATHER~ Entering the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, the traditional site of the birth of Jesus, is one of the most memorable experiences for any Christian pilgrim visiting the Holy Land. First constructed at the commission of Roman Emperor Constantine the Great in AD 326, the church is on the oldest site continually used for worship by Christians anywhere in the world. Although the basilica initially had a grand arched entrance in its first thousand years, it came into a period of disuse and neglect after the conquest of the Holy Land by the Islamic rulers of the Ottoman Empire in AD 1516. In an effort to prevent people from entering the church with horses and cattle, the Christians caring for the building at that time walled up the main entrance, leaving only a very small door. This opening has ever since been known as the “Door of Humility.” It makes a most fitting way for those who come to worship at the site of the manger of the Christ Child to enter that sacred space. Where we worship here and now is also a sacred space. Although we may not have needed to bow down to enter the front door today, bringing an attitude of humility to our worship of our gracious Lord is truly fitting for us.

WELCOME FAMILIES WITH LITTLE ONES!!!

THE NURSERY: is available to parents for infants and young toddlers under 5 years old during worship in the nursery room in the fellowship hall. See an usher for assistance. **Quiet time activity bags are located at the back of the sanctuary hanging on the wooden cross for older children to use during the service.**

FAMILY ROOM :You will also find through the southeast door marked FAMILY ROOM, there are some quiet toys on the shelf if you want a quiet space for your little one.

WE are Live streaming!!!

Find us on – Facebook : “Christ Lutheran Church ”

Boxcast/Sunday streams : “Christ Lutheran Church Meridian, Idaho”

YouTube: “Christ Lutheran Church Meridian, Idaho”

ALSO on our web-site “CLCMeridian.org where there is a bulletin to follow

IF YOU DO NOT want your child filmed, we ask that they sit behind the pulpit. If you have any other concerns, please ask an Elder or Usher for help.

FOR THOSE WHO ARE COMMUNING...SEE BACK OF BULLETIN

HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES AVAILABLE--Personal hearing devices are available to assist those attending worship services at Christ Lutheran. If you would like to use one, please ask an usher for assistance.

FOR THOSE WITH PHYSICAL LIMITATIONS, FEEL FREE TO STAY SEATED AS NEEDED DURING THE SERVICE AND STAND WHEN RECEIVING COMMUNION.

PLEASE! OUT OF RESPECT FOR THOSE AROUND YOU, PLEASE TURN YOUR CELL PHONE OFF (OR ON SILENT/VIBRATE) DURING WORSHIP.

Christ Lutheran Church Mission Statement

Christ Lutheran Church exists to glorify God, by making disciples that reach up, reach in, and reach out.

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST— PROPER 17

Following in Humility
August 31, 2025

WELCOME

OPENING SONG “We Bow Down” (TBOB) 233

1. You are Lord of creation
And Lord of my life
Lord of the land and the seas
You were Lord of the heavens before there was time
And Lord of all lords You will be

**Chorus 1. We bow down
And we worship You, Lord
We bow down
And we worship You, Lord
We bow down and we worship You, Lord
Lord of all lords You will be**

2. You are King of creation
And King of my life
King of the land and the seas
You were King of the heavens before there was time
And King of all kings You will be

**Chorus 2. We bow down
And we crown You the King
We bow down
And we crown You the King
We bow down
And we crown You the King
King of all kings You will be (repeat Chorus 1 and 2)**

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalms 149:1–4*

Pastor: Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song,

People: His praise in the assembly of the godly!

Pastor: Let Israel be glad in his Maker;

People: let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!

Pastor: Let them praise His name with dancing, making melody to Him with tambourine and lyre!

People: For the LORD takes pleasure in His people; He adorns the humble with salvation.

CONFESSION and GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Pastor: It is good and right that we should make confession of our sins. The section on confession in Luther's catechism instructs us with these words: "Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven." Humble yourselves, then, before God, confess your sins to Him, and implore His forgiveness.

People: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your present and eternal punishment. By nature, I am a sinful creature. By thought, word, and deed I have continually transgressed Your law. For the sake of the sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being. Forgive me all of my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life.

Pastor: God be gracious to you and strengthen your faith.

People: Amen.

Pastor: As you believe, so let it be. As a called and ordained
servant Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you
all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son
and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE OF THE LORD *(We greet one another in peace.)*

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

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us extend the peace of God to one another.

+ WORD +

INTROIT *Psalm 75:1–2, 6, 9; antiphon: v. 7*

Pastor: It is God who executes judgment,
putting down one and lifting up another.

**People: We give thanks to You, O God; we give thanks, for Your
name is near. We recount Your wondrous deeds.**

Pastor: At the set time that I appoint
I will judge with equity.

**People: For not from the east or from the west
and not from the wilderness comes lifting up.**

Pastor: But I will declare it forever;
I will sing praises to the God of Jacob. (cont.)

**People: 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.**

Pastor: It is God who executes judgment,
putting down one and lifting up another.

**People: We give thanks to You, O God; we give thanks, for Your
name is near. We recount Your wondrous deeds.**

KYRIE (pg. 186 in Hymnal)

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

SONG OF PRAISE "A Simple Word of Grace" (TBOB) 3

1. A Simple word of grace is all I need,
Flowing from a cross, a cross for me.
A gentle word of love is all I need,
flowing from a cross, a cross for me.

Chorus:

Jesus, You have given me all of Your grace so tenderly.
I lift my hands and praise Your name.
Jesus, You have given me all of Your love on Calvary.
I lift my heart into Your hands.

2. A Simple word of hope is all I need,
flowing from Your love, Your love for me.
A gentle word of peace is all I need,
flowing from Your love, Your love for me. **Chorus**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.
O Lord of grace and mercy, teach us by Your Holy Spirit to follow the example of Your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

+ SERVICE OF GOD'S WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Proverbs 25:2–10* (Guidelines for a blessed life)

²It is the glory of God to conceal things,
but the glory of kings is to search things out.
³As the heavens for height, and the earth for depth,
so the heart of kings is unsearchable.
⁴Take away the dross from the silver,
and the smith has material for a vessel;
⁵take away the wicked from the presence of the king,
and his throne will be established in righteousness.
⁶Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great,
⁷for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.
What your eyes have seen
⁸do not hastily bring into court,
for what will you do in the end,
when your neighbor puts you to shame?
⁹Argue your case with your neighbor himself,
and do not reveal another's secret,
¹⁰lest he who hears you bring shame upon you,
and your ill repute have no end.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *Hebrews 13:1–17* (Living in God-pleasing ways)

¹Let brotherly love continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. ³Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body. ⁴Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous. ⁵Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” ⁶So we can confidently say, “The Lord is my helper;

I will not fear;
what can man do to me?”

⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ⁹Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited those devoted to them. ¹⁰We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. ¹¹For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy places by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. ¹²So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. ¹³Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. ¹⁴For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. ¹⁵Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. ¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

¹⁷Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 14:1–14* (Jesus teaches about humble living.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹One Sabbath, when [Jesus] went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. ²And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. ³And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?” ⁴But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. ⁵And he said to them, “Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?” ⁶And they could not reply to these things.

⁷Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, ⁸“When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, ⁹and he who invited you both will come and say to you, ‘Give your place to this person,’ and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. ¹¹For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

¹²He said also to the man who had invited him, “When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. ¹³But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. You will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

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.

MESSAGE SONG "Because He Lives" (TOSB) 11

1. God sent His son, they called Him Jesus
He came to love, heal and forgive
He lived and died to buy my pardon
An empty grave is there to prove my savior lives

**Chorus: Because He lives, I can face tomorrow
Because He lives, all fear is gone
Because I know He holds the future
And life is worth the living, just because He lives**

2. How sweet to hold a newborn baby
And feel the pride and joy He gives
But greater still the calm assurance
This child can face uncertain day, because He lives **Chorus**

SERMON

OFFERING

"I have held many things in my hands, and I have lost them all. But whatever I have placed in God's hands, that I still possess." — **Martin Luther (1483-1546)**,

OFFERTORY "Create in Me" 192

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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH *(Pastor invites prayer requests)*

After each petition Pastor will say, "Lord in Your mercy"

Our response:

People: hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER *(Matthew 6:9-13)*

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.

PREFACE

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

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. [*Colossians 3:1*]

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. [*Psalm 136*]

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and all places give thanks to You, Lord our God, for You have graciously blessed us through the Word Incarnate, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who for our sake died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death. Confident of His compassion on us and rejoicing in the company of the saints on earth and those above, we laud and magnify Your holy name.

SANCTUS (p. 195 in hymnal)

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace + of the Lord be with you always.

People: And also with you.

LAMB OF GOD [LSB 550 refrain only]

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God!
O wash me in His precious blood, My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

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DISTRIBUTION HYMNS/SONGS

“When Peace Like a River” (LSB) 763

- 1 When peace, like a river, attendeth my way;
When sorrows, like sea billows, roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul. Refrain
- ref It is well (It is well)
with my soul, (with my soul),
It is well, it is well with my soul.
- 2 Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate
And hath shed His own blood for my soul. Refrain
- 3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! Refrain
- 4 And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;
Even so it is well with my soul. Refrain

"Lord I lift Your Name on High " (TBOB) 151

Lord I lift your name on high
Lord I love to sing your praises
I'm so glad you are in my life
I'm so glad you came to save us

Chorus: You came from heaven to earth, to show the way
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky
Lord I lift your name on high
Lord I lift your name on high
Lord I love to sing your praises
I'm so glad you are in my life
I'm so glad you came to save us

Chorus: You came from heaven to earth, to show the way
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky
Lord I lift your name on high **(repeat Chorus)**

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE "Thank the Lord" (LSB 164)

Thank the Lord and sing His praise;
Tell ev'ryone 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.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.
Heavenly Father, we thank You for having fed us with Your
life-giving food. Grant that we ever follow our Lord Jesus
Christ, expressing the thanks of our lives as we take places
in which we can bring glory to You and bring blessed
service to those around us as the Spirit works daily in our
hearts and lives.

When our earthly journey is completed, grant us a portion with the saints in light eternal. This we ask through Jesus Christ, our blessed Savior and Redeemer.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor :The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with Us all.

People: Glory and honor and praise and thanksgiving be to the Lord and to His church forever more...Amen.

Pastor: Now may the God, who loves us, and the Son who sends us, and the Spirit, who empowers us, Bless us as only He is able!

All: Amen.

CLOSING SONG "Shout To The North"

1. Men of faith, rise up and sing
of the great and glorious King.
You are strong when you feel weak,
In your broken-ness, complete. **Chorus**

2. Rise up woman of the truth
Stand and sing to broken hearts
Who can know the healing power
of our awesome King of love? **Chorus twice**

Bridge:

We've been through fire, we've been through rain.
We've been refined by the pow'r of His name
We've fallen deeper in love with you.
You've burned the truth on our lips. **Chorus twice**

3. Rise up church with broken wings;
Fill this place with songs again
of our God who reigns on high.
By His grace again we'll fly. **Chorus four times**
Lord of heaven and earth, Lord of heaven and earth.
Lord of heaven and earth.

Chorus:

Shout to the north and the south.

Sing to the east and the west.

**Jesus is Savior to all,
Lord of heaven and earth.**

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 3.
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FOR THOSE WHO ARE COMMUNING...In keeping with Scripture, visitors who are active members of LCMS congregations (or from church bodies in fellowship with the LCMS) are asked to speak with the pastor or elder prior to the Sacrament. Because those who eat and drink the Lord's **Body and Blood** unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Corinthians 11:29) and because Holy Communion is a confession of faith that is confessed at this altar, all other visitors are asked to make an appointment with the pastor to discuss the Lord's Supper prior to receiving the Sacrament.

Members and visitors alike, who have been instructed in the Christian faith, are encouraged to use the following questions:

Do I believe that in the Lord's Supper I receive Jesus' true **Body and Blood** with the bread and wine?

Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God's Son and my personal Savior, who paid for all of my sins on the cross and thereby saves me from eternal punishment?

Do I believe that I am a sinful being without hope of eternal life, except for God's mercy in Christ?

Do I repent of all sin, and set aside any grudges or refusal to forgive and love as God forgives and loves us?

Do I intend, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to turn away from my sins and strive to live a Godly life?

This is not a judgment of an individual's faith but a matter of proper preparation and pastoral care of souls. (1 Corinthians 11:26-30) Thank you for your deference to the Biblical doctrine of this congregation.

Note: The red wine in the Communion tray is Non-alcohol and is available for those with medical limitations. GLUTEN FREE WAFERS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

***IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE COMMUNION AT YOUR SEAT
PLEASE TELL THE USHER AND YOU WILL BE SERVED TOWARD THE
END OF COMMUNION.***

About the Cover: Seats of honor at a wedding feast are not taken. They are given by the host. So also, our honor before God is not something that we take. It has been given to us by Jesus, the Son of God. Even though Jesus deserved the greatest seat of honor, He took the shame of the cross on our behalf. But He was exalted. He rose, ascended, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. Graciously, God "raised us up with Him and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus" (Ephesians 2:6)