

Hebrews 10:22

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION SEPTEMBER 23, 2018 – 10:30 AM

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH WOODCLIFF LAKE, NJ

WELCOME TO CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

TODAY WE GATHER AND HEAR JESUS' INVITATION into humble service which is how we draw near to God and God to us. [Sundays and Seasons]

BREAKING THE SOUND BARRIER! We invite you to try one of our listening devices, which allows you to sit anywhere in the sanctuary. They are available by speaking to an usher, Tom Kearns or David Crouse.

<u>PINK PRAYER CARDS:</u> You may write names for prayer on a pink card found in the pew rack. Please place your card on the altar rail for inclusion in the prayers of the day. If you wish a name to be added to our printed prayer list (for four weeks) please write "Prayer List" on the card. <u>Please be sure this prayer request is approved by the person for whom we are praying.</u>

HOLY COMMUNION: All who are baptized are invited to the table where Christ is bodily present in the bread and wine. At the directions of our ushers, all who are able kneel at the rail to receive this gift. The individual cups contain wine and grape juice (grape juice is in the center of the tray). A common cup with wine is also available. Children who commune should hold out their hands to the server.

NURSERY FACILITIES: There is a self-serve Nursery and Infant Room for young children accompanied by their parents. The Infant Room contains a bathroom with a changing table. These rooms are located along the hallway from the side door of the sanctuary.

NEED AN OFFERING ENVELOPE? We have envelopes in the pews for you. Please include your contact information or envelope number. **We also accept checks online.** Visit our website (www.clc4u.com) and click on "Give" to learn how to set up an account with your bank information. Thank you for your gift!

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Pastor: Rev. Marc A. Stutzel

Director of Music: Argine Safari

Director of Youth Choirs: David Scance Administrative Assistant: Doris Crouse 32 Pascack Rd., Woodcliff Lake, NJ 07677

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Open on Sundays: 9:00 and 10:30 am

PRELUDE

CONGREGATION ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

[Pink prayer cards with your joys or concerns may be placed on the altar rail.]

[For today's worship all *portions in italics will be spoken by our worship leaders*. Congregational responses are in **bold-faced type**.]

[Please stand as you are able.]

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

[We share the peace via handshake or the peace sign.]

GATHERING SONG – "Gather Us In" [ELW 532, all verses] Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, dark - ness now is the We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, the old who we are wa - ter, 3 Here we will take the wine and the here we will take the Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en. van - ished a - way; in this space our fears and our dream-ings yearn for your face; bread of new birth, we have been sung through - out all his - t'ry, of your here you shall call sons and your daugh-ters, this place the new light is light years a - way here in shin - ing, brought here the light of in this day. to you called to be light the whole hu race. to man call be for the earth. us a new to salt king - dom, and the now is the now is day. Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, Gath-er us in, the gath-er us in, the Give us the wine of com-pas-sion, give us the to drink to eat Gath-er hold us us in and for - ev - er, gath-er us in and blind and the lame; call and we shall a - wak - en. to us now, proud and give us the strong; heart, SO meek and SO low - ly, a bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er, shall a - rise the sound of we at our name. give us the cour - age to en ter the song. lives that are ho ly and hearts that are true. fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

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GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

has be - gun his

reign. Al

1e

lu - ia.

Al - le - lu

[Pastor] Refrain Assisting minister This is the feast vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu of ia. All 1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and hon - or and bless-ing glo - ry strength, and and are his. Refrain This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu ia. 2 Sing all with the peo - ple of God join and in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be God and the for - ev-er. to Lamb Α men. Final refrain This is the feast vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

[The congregation may sit.]

CHILDREN'S SERMON

THE FIRST READING — Jeremiah 11:18-20

 18 It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their evil deeds. ¹⁹But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying, "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!" ²⁰But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them,

for to you I have committed my cause.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING - James 3:13-4:8a

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. ¹Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. 3 You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. ⁴Adulterers! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. ⁵Or do you suppose that it is for nothing that the scripture says, "God yearns jealously for the spirit that he has made to dwell in us"? ⁶But he gives all the more grace; therefore it says,

"God opposes the proud,

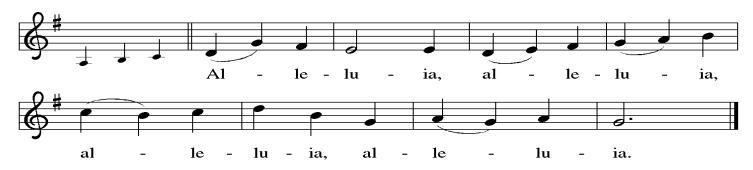
but gives grace to the humble."

⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION [Please stand as you are able.]



THE HOLY GOSPEL according to St. Mark 9:30:37 Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁰[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." ³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me." The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

[The congregation may sit.]

SERMON – The Company You Keep

HYMN OF THE DAY – "Son of God, Eternal Savior" [ELW 655, verses 1-3]



Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855–1932 Music: IN BABILONE, Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse Boerenlities en Contradansen, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932

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THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION [The congregation may sit.]

Freed by God in Christ to live and love and serve, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's beloved creation.

[A brief silence.]

Gracious God, you gather congregations together by the power of your word. We pray for our bishops, Elizabeth and Tracie, and all rostered leaders who are shepherding congregations who are in transition. Bless leaders with the gifts of wisdom and discernment as they seek to make your church the community for which you long. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Creative God, blue whales and honeybees sing the goodness of the earth. Glaciers and deserts declare your greatness. Make us good stewards of our home for the generations to come. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Sovereign God, you raise up governments to protect the widow and orphan. We pray for Donald, the President; and Nancy, Jacqueline, Angela, Corrado, Kristy, and Brian who serve on the city council of Woodcliff Lake. Bless citizens with wisdom and discernment as they choose leaders. Inspire leaders to always seek the common good. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Loving God, you desire health and wholeness. Reconcile the conflicts and disputes among us. Teach us to heal the trauma of racism and poverty. Break our hearts open to all those who suffer and mourn, especially . . .

Beverly Albert, Dolores Albert, Whitney Algieri, Karin Anderson,
Susan Bachstetter, Bill Caver, John Bliefernich, Tony Conboy, Kathy Cipoletti,
Ken Eastlund, Kim Herrera, Mae Hulburt, Shiloh and Katherine Johnson,
Henry Krumrei, Joyanna Peros, Lorraine and Jack Sadlon,
Sharon Schumann, Nancy Sweet, Trudy Ungar, Camp Koinonia

Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Welcoming God, you place children among us. Teach us to honor the children in our midst and to pay attention to what they can teach us about who you are. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

You surround us with a cloud of witnesses who announce the good news of abundant life to a sad and needy world. Make us a pilgrim people, always telling the story of your lovingkindness. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Into your wide embrace, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your boundless mercy through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer.

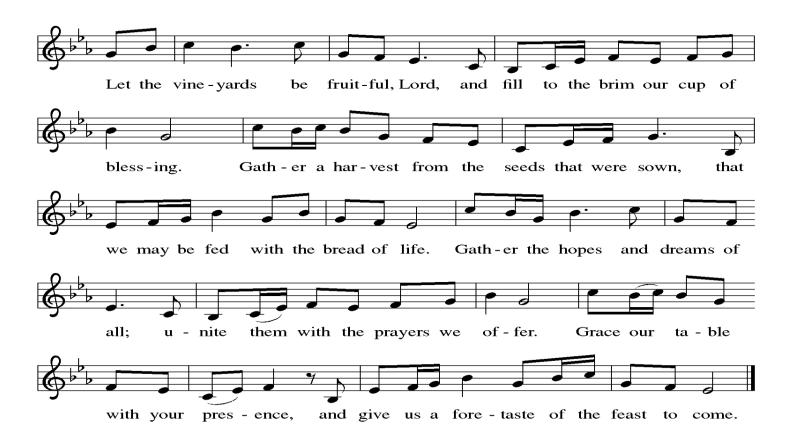
Amen.

<u>CHANCEL CHOIR MUSICAL OFFERING</u> – "Kyrie" [from "Mass in G" by Franz Schubert" Katie Suarez, soloist

THE OFFERING IS TAKEN

THE ELEMENTS ARE RECEIVED AND THE OFFERTORY IS SUNG

OFFERTORY SONG – "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful" [ELW 184, please stand as you are able.] [Song continues on the following page.]



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

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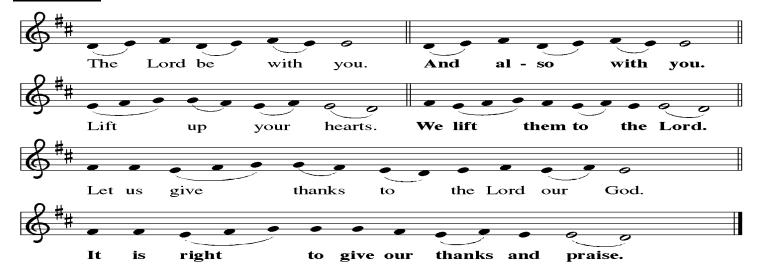
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OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

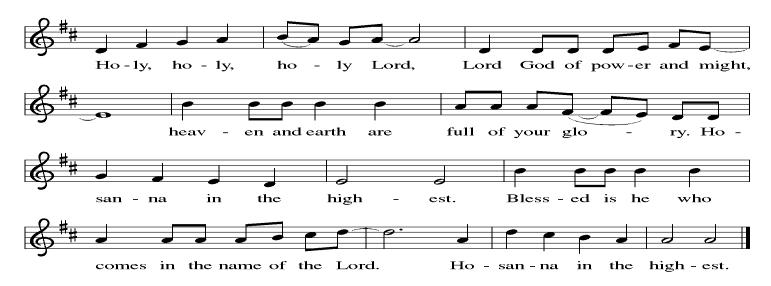
DIALOGUE



PREFACE



HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:

Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.

You have filled all creation with light and life;

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age:

the promise to Israel,

the rescue from Egypt,

the gift of the promised land,

the words of the prophets;

and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Come, not because you are perfect but because, through Christ Jesus, you are invited.

[The congregation may sit.]

HOLY COMMUNION

[All are invited to the Table where Christ is bodily present in the bread and drink.

At the direction of our ushers, everyone who is able kneels at the rail.

Bread will be distributed first (gluten free wafers are available),
followed by wine and grape juice in individual cups.

A chalice with wine is also available.

Children and all who have not received First Communion will receive a blessing.

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.]

[The following songs are sung by the congregation during the distribution of Holy Communion.]

COMMUNION SONG – "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service" [ELW 712,all verses] Lord, whose love in ser - vice bore the weight of hum - ble hu - man need, home-less; still the hun - gry cry for bread; your chil-dren wan-der 3 we wor-ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal-ing light Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer-cy's per - fect deed: still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our its height and depth and great-ness dawns up - on our quick-ened sight, the child, the youth, the a - ged, love liv - ing deeds to in ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart; we, your you, Lord, in deep com-pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul, mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids bear, hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give, ev - 'ry gift which you im - part. con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984
Music: BEACH SPRING, The Sacred Harp, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. Selected Hymns, 1985

ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life

free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

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that your ser - vants, Lord, in

COMMUNION SONG – "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" [ELW 733, all verses]



[Song continues on the following page.]



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[Please stand.]

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

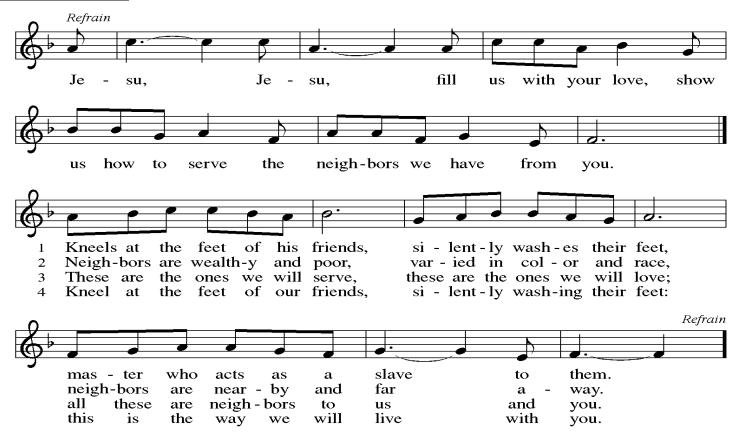
Let us pray. Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, Ψ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. Amen.

SENDING SONG – "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love" [ELW 708, verses 1-3]



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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CONGREGATION MEETING

REFLECTION Pastor Marc Stutzel

The last verse in our James reading today ("Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you") doesn't sound very Lutheran. This verse seems to imply God works through transactions. If you do something for God, then God will do something for you. If you say the right prayer, donate to the right cause, or act like you are really sorry, then God will respond by showering you with grace and love. In this kind of faith scheme, God is an accountant, waiting for our move before God gives out the goods. But God isn't into transactions and there's nothing we can do for God to love us more. So what should we do with a verse like 4:8?

We need to remember James 1:17-18 when we read any passage in James: "every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures." We are, through the gift of faith, born anew. It's through the Spirit when we finally learn to trust God. Our faith needs to come from God or else we'll create a personal faith that always wonders what we'll get out of it. Faith is a gift from God that awakens this truth: we truly are God's beloved children.

Since we are beloved, God invites us to live as if we are truly loved. That isn't always easy. The Bible isn't a guidebook with detailed instructions on how we are supposed to act in every possible situation. Instead, God trusts us to see the gifts God gives us and respond accordingly. James in this passage, I think, doesn't see God as an accountant waiting to give us gifts after we do the right thing. Instead, God is always there even when we fail to love like God does. Drawing near to God is an invitation to embrace our need for repentance. We need to, over and over again, admit our failures and our sin. We need to remember there is a God and we are not it. We, through worship, prayer, study, and confession, return to God as a way to embrace who we already are. We are loved. We are God's. We are with Jesus. And so we make the conscious choice to re-engage with God knowing that God has never disengaged from us.

Some Basics for a Congregational Meeting

We used Robert Rules of Order to organize our meetings. Here's some information to help us today.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE

- Everyone has the right to participate in discussion if they wish, before anyone may speak a second time.
- Everyone has the right to know what is going on at all times.
- Only urgent matters may interrupt a speaker.
- Only one thing (motion) can be discussed at a time.

A motion is the topic under discussion (e.g., "I move that we add a coffee break to this meeting"). After being recognized by the president, any member can introduce a motion when no other motion is on the table. A motion requires a second to be considered. Each motion must be disposed of (passed, defeated, tabled, referred to committee, or postponed indefinitely).

Discussion is directed towards the president and on the motion at hand. Please identify your position on the motion ("I speak for" or "I speak against").

If you wish to speak, come to the mic in the center of the room. If walking to the mic is difficult for you, ask to use a handheld mic. If you are interrupting (see end of this cheat sheet on the only way you can interrupt), you can use the handheld mic.

ITEMS NEEDING A MOTION

1) You want to bring up a new idea before the group.

After recognition by the president, present your motion. A second is required for the motion to go to the floor for discussion, or consideration.

2) You want to change some of the wording in a motion under discussion.

After recognition by the church council president, move to amend by *adding* words, striking words or striking and inserting words. The discussion will shift to the amendment and not the original motion. If the amendment passes or fails, then discussion returns to the motion (as amended).

3) You like the idea of a motion being discussed, but you need to reword it beyond simple word changes.

Move to substitute your motion for the original motion. If it is seconded, discussion will continue on both motions and eventually the body will vote on which motion they prefer.

- 4) You want more study and/or investigation given to the idea being discussed. Move to refer to a committee. Try to be specific as to the charge to the committee.
- 5) You want more time personally to study the proposal being discussed. Move to postpone to a definite time or date.
- 6) You are tired of the current discussion.

Move to limit debate to a set period of time or to a set number of speakers. Requires a 2/3 vote.

7) You have heard enough discussion.

Move to close the debate. Requires a 2/3 vote. Or move to previous question. This cuts off discussion and brings the assembly to a vote on the pending question only. Requires a 2/3 vote.

8) You want to postpone a motion until some later time.

Move to table the motion. The motion may be taken from the table after 1 item of business has been conducted. If the motion is not taken from the table by the end of the next meeting, it is dead. To kill a motion at the time it is tabled requires a 2/3 vote. A majority is required to table a motion without killing it.

9) You want to take a short break.

Move to recess for a set period of time.

10) You want to end the meeting.

Move to adjourn.

11) You have changed your mind about something that was voted on earlier in the meeting for which you were on the winning side.

Move to reconsider. If the majority agrees, the motion comes back on the floor as though the vote had not occurred.

How To Do Things

1) You believe the discussion has drifted away from the agenda and want to bring it back.

Call for orders of the day.

2) You are unsure that the president of the board has announced the results of a vote correctly.

Without being recognized, call for a "division of the house." At this point a roll call vote will be taken.

- 3) You are confused about a procedure being used and want clarification. Without recognition, call for "Point of Information" or "Point of Parliamentary Inquiry." The church council president will ask you to state your question and will attempt to clarify the situation.
- 4) You may INTERRUPT a speaker for these reasons only:
 - point of information: to get information about business
 - parliamentary inquiry: to get information about rules
 - question of privilege: if you can't hear, safety reasons, comfort, etc.
 - point of order: if you see a breach of the rules
 - appeal: if you disagree with the president's ruling

Special Gift Applications for Today's Congregation Meeting The following projects were approved by the Church Council and are brought to you for consideration.

Application Number	<u>Description</u>	Requested Amount	Contact Person
2018 - 001	Retainer for Attorney to review Ricci Foundation Trust with Our Lady of Mercy.	\$1,750.00	Pastor Marc
2018 - 002	Program from NJ Synod to train Lay Leaders in areas and connect with other Congregations.	\$500.00	Church Council / Pastor Marc
2018 - 003	Emergency Fund Replenishment	\$9,000.00	Kim Kearns
2017 - 001	Kiosk for giving in Narthex to allow visitors to make credit card donations.	\$700.00	Pastor Marc
2017 - 006	Grocery Bag Project - Needed November 2018	\$1,000.00	Doris Crouse
2017 - 009	LSM Hygiene Kit - Needed November 2018	\$400.00	Doris Crouse
2017 - 010	Christmas at Sea - Seafarers Ministry - Needed December 2018	\$800.00	Doris Crouse

Agenda Christ Lutheran Church Special Congregational Meeting September 23, 2018

The purpose of this meeting is to vote on time sensitive requests submitted to the Special Gifts Disbursement Committee.

These requests have been approved by the Special Gifts Disbursement Committee and the Congregational Council and, according to the Constitution, no other business shall be transacted.

A quorum of 35 voting members is required to conduct the meeting.

- 1. Call meeting to order, sign in sheets distributed, collected, and quorum confirmed
- 2. Opening devotions
- 3. Adoption of agenda
- 4. Presentation on requests for funds from the Ricci Foundation
- 5. Vote conducted by ballot
- 6. Results announced
- 7. Closing prayer