



Online Worship
October 10, 2021 at 10:30 am
20th Sunday After Pentecost

Christ Lutheran Church . Woodcliff Lake, NJ

www.clc4u.com

201-391-4224

All text in *italics* is spoken by the leader. Text in **bold** is your invitation to join in. Please speak those words as you are able.

OPENING & WELCOME

*Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose teaching is life,
whose presence is sure,
and whose love is endless.*

Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

God our comforter:

like lost sheep, we have gone astray.

We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.

We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.

We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.

Free us from our sin, gracious God.

Listen when we call out to you for help.

Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Amen.

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

By the gift of grace in † Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

Amen.

SONG - Shout to the Lord

[played and sung by Argine Safari and David Scance.]

*My Jesus, my savior,
Lord, there is none like you.
All of my days - I want to
praise
The wonder of your mighty
love.*

*My comfort, my shelter,
Tower of refuge and strength;
Let ev'ry breath, all that I am
Never cease to worship you.*

*Shout to the Lord, all the earth,
let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to
the king.
Mountains bow down and the
seas will roar
At the sound of your name.*

*I sing for joy at the work of
your hands;
Forever I'll love you, forever
I'll stand
Nothing compares to the
promise I have in you.*

*My Jesus, my savior,
Lord, there is none like you.
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promise I have in you.*

[continue next column ->]

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us your gift of faith, that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what lies ahead, we may follow the way of your commandments and receive the crown of everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

A MESSAGE FOR ALL OF GOD'S CHILDREN

A READING FROM Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

Seek the Lord and live, or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire, and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it. Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood, and bring righteousness to the ground!

They hate the one who reproves in the gate, and they abhor the one who speaks the truth. Therefore because you trample on the poor and take from them levies of grain, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not live in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine. For I know how many are your transgressions, and how great are your sins— you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and push aside the needy in the gate. Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time; for it is an evil time.

Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said. Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A READING FROM Hebrews 4:12-16

Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The GOSPEL ACCORDING to Mark 10:17-31

As [Jesus] was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.’” He said to him, “Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.” Jesus,

looking at him, loved him and said, “You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.” When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!” And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, “Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.”

Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON - Moral Documents

[By Pastor Marc]

SONG - Beneath the Cross of Jesus

[played and sung by Argine Safari and David Scance.]

*Beneath the cross of Jesus
I long to take my stand;
the shadow of a mighty rock
within a weary land,
a home within a wilderness,
a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the
noontide heat
and the burdens of the day.*

*I take, O cross, your shadow
for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine
than the sunshine of his face;
content to let the world go by,
to know no gain nor loss,
my sinful self my only shame,
my glory all, the cross.*

*Upon the cross of Jesus,
my eye at times can see
the very dying form of one
who suffered there for me.
And from my contrite heart,
with tears,
two wonders I confess:
the wonder of his glorious love
and my unworthiness.*

[song continues next column ->]

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

OFFERING

[words by Rev. Dr. Barb Hedges-Goettl.]

When God's creative spirit dreamed up the gift of faith, God knew we would need each other to make that gift grow. The church is more than a building or a place; the church is people who pray and care for one another. You are Christ Lutheran Church and your gifts make the gospel real in this place. Let us pray for these generous gifts with words by Rev. Dr. Barb Hedges-Goettl.

O God, Jesus taught that where our treasure is, there will our hearts be also. In this hour, we come with our treasures — all that we have and all that we are. We come seeking your treasure— treasure that does not fade, decay, or disappoint. Share with us the treasure of heaven, that we may boldly share it with others.

Amen.

RESPONSIVE PRAYERS OF THE DAY

*Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need. When you hear the words "Lord, in your mercy," please respond with, "**hear our prayer.**"*

Uniting God, you call forth different gifts in those who follow you. Give bold, strong, and faithful voices to our bishops, Elizabeth and Tracie, and all deacons in the church. Encourage us to welcome the diverse benefits and blessings of the whole church in teaching, preaching, prophecy, healing, and more. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Nurturing God, you bring forth crops from the soil and bounty from the trees. Increase the produce of the land and bless all who toil in fields and orchards. Provide for good working conditions and keep them safe. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Empowering God, you offer compassion for those who are overlooked or forgotten. Open the hearts of local, national, and world leaders, including Joseph the President, Philip, NJ's Governor, Carlos, the mayor of Woodcliff Lake, Holly, Robert, DeAnne, our NJ state representatives, and all candidates running for election, so that they can show Your compassion and love for their neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Sheltering God, in Jesus you travelled among us without a place to lay your head. Provide safe places to sleep and rest for those who have no place to live. Sustain ministries that offer food, clothing, and peace of mind such as the Center for food Action and the Tri-Boro Food Pantry. Bring healing, hope, and comfort to all those we name today: Dolores Albert, Anthony C., Sue Bachstetter, Sharon Bongard, Mark Buckley, Jim Christensen, Jackson Fehr, Jean Helom, Mae Hulburt, Ruben Moreno, Faye

Rekosik, Kim Ritter, JoDee Roach, Lorraine Sadlon, Lata Sharma, Alice Sheer, Miriam and Earl Valder, and those we hold in our hearts during this moment of silence.

[a moment of silence]

*Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.*

*Renewing God, you bring life out of death. Help us part with those things that are no longer beneficial to us and open our hearts to see where new life is budding in this congregation.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.*

*Eternal God, we thank you for the lives of those who have died. Make us confident in your promise of salvation and support us in our own journey of faith. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.*

*Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

THE PEACE

I invite you to take a look at everyone who surrounds you in your sacred space. If you are currently by yourself, know that the entire church is, through Jesus, always with you. Send a blessing to those physically closest to you or send a text/type out a DM/or make a plan to call someone you care about - and wish that the peace of Christ may be with them.

Let us now think about all who are worshipping with us online, via conference call or in-person. In our hearts, let's send to your entire faith community a blessing and wish that the peace of Christ may be with them.

Finally, let the blessing we offer each other go out to our families, friends, neighbors, and to the entire world. With God's help, our hearts are big enough to extend peace that far. Let us embody the peace of Christ after we leave worship today.

HOLY COMMUNION

[We invited you to gather a bit of bread (or similar item), drink (wine or grape juice). The elements used during communion remind us of a substantial meal we would eat during a celebration.]

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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.

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit across phone lines, social media, and the internet - let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

You are here, not because you are perfect, but because, through Christ Jesus, you are welcomed and loved.

This is the body of Christ, given for you.

This is the blood of Christ, shed for you.

[After consuming the elements.]

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

Let us pray. Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SONG - Lord, Reign in Me **SONG - King of Heaven**

[played and sung by Argine Safari and David Scance.]

*Jesus, let Your kingdom come here;
Let your will be done here - in us;
Jesus, there is no one greater;
You alone are Savior;
Show the world Your love.*

*King of heaven, come down;
King of heaven, come now;
Let Your glory reign,
Shining like the day,
King of heaven, come.*

*King of heaven, rise up;
Who can stand against us?
You are strong to save,
In Your mighty name,
King of heaven, come.*

*We are children of Your mercy,
Rescued for Your glory;
We cry Jesus, set our hearts
towards You,
That ev'ry eye would see You lifted
high.*

[continue next column ->]

*King of heaven, come down;
King of heaven, come now;
Let Your glory reign,
Shining like the day,
King of heaven, come.*

*King of heaven, rise up;
Who can stand against us?
You are strong to save,
In Your mighty name,
King of heaven, come.*

*King of heaven, come.
King of heaven, come.
King of heaven, come.
OOH - King of heaven, come.*

*King of heaven, come down;
King of heaven, come now;
Let Your glory reign,
Shining like the day,
King of heaven, come.*

*King of heaven, rise up;
Who can stand against us?
You are strong to save,
In Your mighty name,
King of heaven, come.
King of heaven, come.
King of heaven, come.*

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

[by Rev. Leila M. Ortiz, Bishop of the Metropolitan Washington D.C. Synod.]

May God give you grace never to sell yourself short; grace to risk something big for something good; grace to remember that the world is too dangerous for anything but truth and too small for anything but Love. The Blessing of God Almighty, + Father Son and Holy Spirit be with us now and remain with us this day and always.

Amen.

So go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

“LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER!” Our Prayer Chain is available for daily prayer for anyone. Contact the church office with concerns/celebrations.

COVID VACCINATIONS Need help getting a vaccine appointment? Contact Kate Stutzel at kate.stutzel@gmail.com or contact the church office.

THE GENESIS GARDEN meets on Wednesday nights! We've harvested 999 lbs of food so far! Send a note to Tom Kearns to get on the garden specific email list: tkearnsnj@gmail.com.

SPECIAL GIFTS FUND UPDATE: Our Special Gifts fund is looking for ministry projects we should consider supporting. Every year, a financial gift from the Anna and Dominick Ricci Foundation is sent to the church and we, as a congregation, vote on how to spend that money. The Committee who helps manage this process is looking for ideas. You can find an application on our website and also at church.

MISSIONARY SUNDAY Debbie Kruegle grew up at CLC and is currently a missionary helping to make the Bible accessible to people all over the world. She'll share her story next **Sunday on October 17** as a translator and you'll have a chance to speak to her after both worships.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HAS RETURNED! Next Sunday, October 17 we will meet again in the sanctuary at 9:45 am to sing, share snacks, and participate in a service project to the community. Sunday School will also meet October 31.

WE NEED YOUR INPUT! DEVOTIONAL CHALLENGE As a congregation, we've been giving out and using the devotional "Christ in Our Home" for quite a while. We are exploring the possibility of using "Our Daily Bread" next year. During the upcoming winter months, we're inviting you to take both devotions and see which one works for you. After using them to nurture your spirituality, let the church office know which one you like best. Your input will inform our decision for 2022.

DO YOU GET OUR WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER? It is sent out every Thursday. Please contact Pastor Marc to sign-up!

TODAY'S ASSISTING MINISTERS:

Musicians Argine Safari & David Scance

THIS WEEK:

Sunday, October 10	9:00 am Worship (Sanctuary) 10:30 am Worship (Sanctuary & online)
Tuesday, October 12	10:00 am Care Committee
Wednesday, Oct. 13	5:30 pm Genesis Garden 8:00 pm Chancel Council (Online)

Thursday, October 14

8:00 pm Finance Committee

Sunday, October 17

9:00 am Worship (In-person)

Missionary Sunday

9:45 am Sunday School

10:30 am Worship (Online & In-person)