



Online Worship
July 18, 2021 at 10 am
8th 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,
the God of manna,
the God of miracles,
the God of mercy.*

Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

*Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our
sin. [A moment of silence.]*

*God, our provider, **help us.***

***It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We
question your ways when they differ from the ways of
the world in which we live. We turn to our own
understanding rather than trusting in you. We take
offense at your teachings and your ways.***

***Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share
with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in
the world. Amen.***

*Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are
fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is
always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life,
you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into
abundant life.*

Amen.

SONG - Prepare the Royal Highway

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

*Prepare the royal highway;
the King of kings is near!*

*Let ev'ry hill and valley
a level road appear!*

*Then greet the King of glory,
foretold in sacred story:*

*Hosanna to the Lord,
for he fulfills God's word!*

*God's people, see him coming:
your own eternal king!*

Palm branches strew before him!

*Spread garments! Shout and
sing!*

God's promise will not fail you!

No more shall doubt assail you!

[continue next column ->]

*Hosanna to the Lord,
for he fulfills God's word!*

*Then fling the gates wide
open*

*to greet your promised
king!*

*Your king, yet ev'ry nation
its tribute too may bring.*

All lands will bow before

him;

*their voices join your
singing*

*Hosanna to the Lord,
for he fulfills God's word!*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

*Let us pray. O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.***

A MESSAGE FOR ALL OF GOD'S CHILDREN

[By Pastor Marc.]

A reading from 2 Samuel 7:1-14a

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you."

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of

his kingdom forever. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me.

*The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.***

A reading from Ephesians 2:11-22

Remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called “the uncircumcision” by those who are called “the circumcision”—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

*The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.***

The Gospel According to Mark 6:30-34,53-56

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, “Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON - God's Terms.

[By Pastor Marc.]

An ongoing list of ways to nurture our creative spirit.

- 1) Expect God (and yourself) to be creative.*
- 2) Practice doodling, daydreaming, and dreaming for a few minutes everyday.*
- 3) Look for the holy moments God gives you. These are moments that make you feel intensely alive. You might need to practice being still, patient, and listening to notice these gifts God is giving you.*
- 4) Embrace the freedom creativity brings.*
- 5) Start a creativity journal. Keep track of your creativity and the creativity you see around you.*
- 6) Feed anticipation and cultivate excitement. At the start of your day, focus on one thing you're looking forward to. It might not take place but you can set the tone for your creative vision.*
- 7) The 7th practice is today!*

SONG - The Church's One Foundation

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

*The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation by water and the word.
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.*

*Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth:
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses with ev'ry grace endued.*

*Though with a scornful wonder this world sees her oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up: "How
long?"
and soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.*

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

[Based on work by Katherine Hawker.]

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 are the people who can 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 Katherine Hawker.

May the offerings mailed to the church or deposited only be used as seeds, planted faithfully and nurtured lovingly so that God's way may be realized anew in this world. Grant us the humility we need to plant and then tend your precious garden.

Amen.

RESPONSIVE PRAYERS OF THE DAY

[modified from work published by the ELCA Worship blog]

Let us come before the triune God in prayer. When you hear the words "O God" at the end of each petition, please respond with
"Grant us your peace."

O God our shepherd, the church calls out for your care. Form bishops, especially Eliabeth and Tracie, and pastors, including our fellow spiritual leaders in the Bergen-Passiac Conference, into courageous shepherds who guide the flocks of the baptized.

Where the pandemic recedes, renew the worship and revive the ministries of your churches. Where throughout the world the pandemic rages, uphold your people with the strength of your word.

Show mercy to the church, O God:

Grant us your peace.

The lands and waters call out for renewal. Provide green pastures and still waters for livestock, and protect gardens, farms, and ranches from disaster. Where flood or drought threatens, save your creation with your loving might.

Show mercy to the earth, O God:

Grant us your peace.

All the needy cry to you. Restore all who are oppressed or imprisoned. Visit Haiti, Cuba, and all nations in distress. Guide the leaders of nations, especially Joseph, the President, Philip, NJ's Governor, Cory and Robert, NJ's Senators, and Josh, our NJ Representative, to walk in the pathways of justice. Break down the walls that divide people of different nation, color, language, or ethnicity.

Show mercy to the nations, O God:

Grant us your peace.

Embrace all who are lonely or abandoned. Protect teenage runaways, and house any who are homeless. Grant acceptance to quarreling family members. Bless all governmental and church agencies of care, including the Tri-Boro Food Pantry,

Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey, the Center for Food Action, and Bergen Family Promise with sufficient resources for their tasks.

Show mercy to all in want, O God:

Grant us your peace.

We pray for the safety of the athletes at the Olympics. Cultivate among them a spirit of friendly camaraderie, and protect the residences of Tokyo from COVID contagion.

Show mercy to this worldwide pursuit, provident God:

Grant us your peace.

Those who are sick stand in need of your care. Visit all who have COVID-19, and accompany those who are standing in the shadow of death. Be a strong rod to those who are weak, and with your staff keep evil distant from all your children. Hear our pleas for those we name here before you: Camp Koinonia, Dolores Albert, Anthony, Sue Bachstetter, Sharon Bongard, Mark Buckley, Jim Christensen, Jackson Fehr, Matthew, Jean Helom, Dylan Henry, Mary Jo Hild, Mae Hulburt, Kenny Kapuspa, Jerry, Ruben Moreno, Faye Rekosik, Charles Roach, Neil, Lorraine Sadlon, Lata Sharma, Alice Sheer, Miriam and Earl Valder, Nisse Wikman and all we name in this moment of silence.

[a moment of silence]

Show mercy to all who suffer, O God:

Grant us your peace.

We thank you for all the faithful of every time and place, especially those we name hold in our hearts. We pray that at the end, we all will dwell in your house forever.

*Show mercy to us all, O God:
Grant us your peace.*

Into your hands, mighty and merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your gift of life, through Jesus Christ, who is our peace.

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. Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

Amen.

SONG - As It Is in Heaven

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

*Our Father, Who Art in
Heaven,
Hallowed be Thy name.
Come and let Your glory come,
And let Your Glory fall.*

*God give us, new ev'ry
morning,
Mercy as daily bread
In the name of Jesus,
In the name of Jesus we pray.*

*Our Father, Who Art in
Heaven;
The rocks cry out Your fame.
Come and let Your glory come,
And let Your glory fall.*

*And lead us not to temptation,
But deliver us with Your hand
In the name of Jesus,
In the name of Jesus we pray.
(Father we pray!)*

*I will sing, sing a new song;
I will sing, sing a new song;
I will sing, sing a new song
To the Lord.*

*I will sing, sing a new song,
I will sing, sing a new song;
I will sing, sing a new song
To the Lord.*

*Let Your kingdom come,
Let Your will be done
On earth as it is in Heaven.
Ev'ry heart proclaim
The mercy of Your name,
On earth, as it is in Heaven.*

*Let Your kingdom come,
Let Your will be done
On earth as it is in Heaven.
Ev'ry heart proclaim
The mercy of Your name,
On earth, as it is in Heaven.*

[song continues in next column ->]

[song continues on next page ->]

*For the kingdom is Yours, and
the power is Yours and the
glory forever, amen.*

*For the kingdom is Yours, and
the power is Yours and the
glory forever, amen.*

*For the kingdom is Yours, and
the power is Yours and the
glory forever, amen.*

[song continues in next column ->]

*For the kingdom is Yours, and
the power is Yours and the
glory forever, amen.*

*Let Your kingdom come,
Let Your will be done
On earth as it is in Heaven.
Ev'ry heart proclaim
The mercy of Your name,
On earth, as it is in Heaven.*

BLESSING

[by Rev. Jan L. Richardson for The Painted Prayerbook.]

*May God, who comes to us in the things of this world, bless your
eyes and be in your seeing.*

*May Christ, who looks upon you with deepest love, bless your
eyes and widen your gaze.*

*May the Spirit, who perceives what is and what may yet be, bless
your eyes and sharpen your vision.*

*May the Sacred Three + bless your eyes and cause you to see.
Amen.*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

