

Christ Lutheran Church & The Bridge Campus Ministry

August 24, 2025 – Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Connecting people to people • people to faith • faith to life

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Here in Athens, in SE Ohio, we are occupying the traditional homeland of the Shawnee people. Before the Shawnee, this land was occupied by the Osage people, and by the Adena, Hopewell and Fort Ancient cultures.



SERVING TODAY: *Presider/Preacher: Chad Huebner; Organist: George Weckman; Choir Director: Christian Yoder; Choir Accompanist: Donnalee Yoder; Pianist: Patricia Cambridge; Lector: Pam Cochran; Time with Children: Jana Hovland; Ushers: Sue Ellen Miller, Lora Blankenship; Greeter: Sierra Haseley; Acolyte: Melody; Livestream: Marilyn Shealy*

INTRODUCTION

Remember the sabbath day. Call the sabbath a delight. This is the Lord's day, and the Lord will do for us what the Lord does: feed us, forgive us, help and heal us. Rejoice at all the wonderful things God is doing.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.
Merciful God,
**you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.
Amen.**

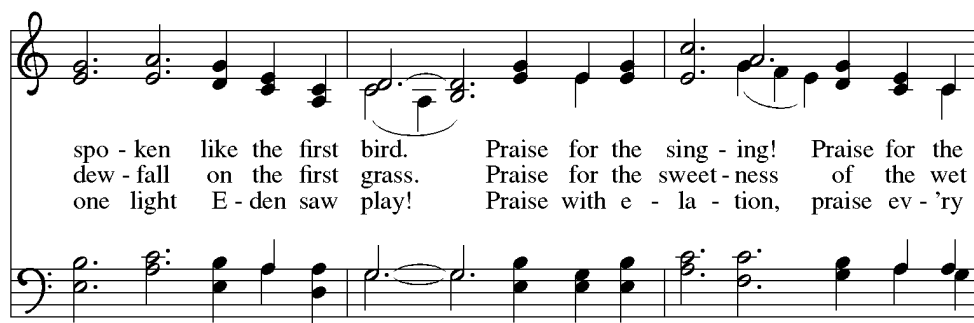
You belong to Christ Jesus
and you are God's children through faith.
In the cross of ✝ Christ,
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG

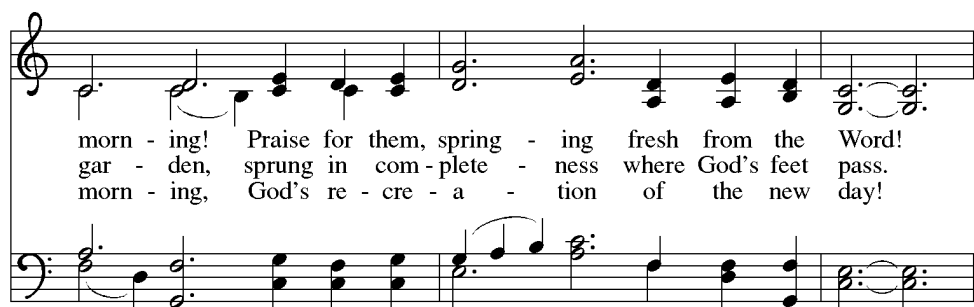
Morning Has Broken (ELW 556)



1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black - bird has
2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en, like the first
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the



spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the
dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet
one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry



morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965
Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version
Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates.
Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:9b-14

A reading from Isaiah.

^{9b} If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹ The LORD will guide you continually
and satisfy your needs in parched places
and make your bones strong,
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water
whose waters never fail.

¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

¹³ If you refrain from trampling the Sabbath,
from pursuing your own interests on my holy day;
if you call the Sabbath a delight
and the holy day of the LORD honorable;
if you honor it, not going your own ways,
serving your own interests or pursuing your own affairs;

¹⁴ then you shall take delight in the LORD,
and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth;
I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 103:1-8

¹ Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

² **Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all God's benefits—**

³ who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases;

⁴ **who redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**

⁵ who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

⁶ **O LORD, you provide vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.**

⁷ You made known your ways to Moses
and your works to the children of Israel.

⁸ **LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 12:18-29

A reading from Hebrews.

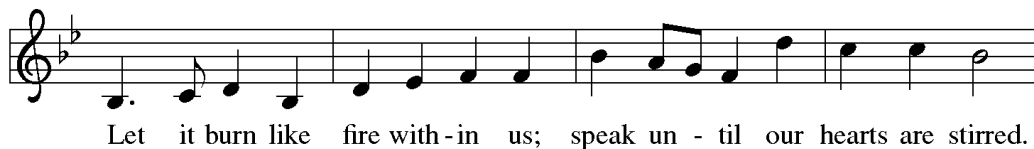
¹⁸ You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, ¹⁹ and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. ²⁰ (For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.") ²¹ Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") ²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³ and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴ and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

²⁵ See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking, for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! ²⁶ At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven." ²⁷ This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸ Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe, ²⁹ for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁰ Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. ¹¹ And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹² When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." ¹³ When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. ¹⁴ But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day." ¹⁵ But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water? ¹⁶ And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?" ¹⁷ When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN

Glorious Things of You Are Spoken (ELW 647)

1 Glo - rious things of you are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y
 2 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e -
 3 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - 'ring, see the cloud and
 4 Sav - ior, since of Zi - on's cit - y I through grace a



of our God! He whose word can - not be bro - ken
 ter - nal love, well sup - ply your sons and daugh - ters,
 fire ap - pear for a glo - ry and a cov - 'ring,
 mem - ber am, let the world de - ride or pit - y,



formed you for his own a - bode. On the Rock of A - ges
 and all fear of want re - move. Who can faint, while such a
 show - ing that the Lord is near. Thus de - riv - ing from their
 I will glo - ry in your name. Fad - ing are the world's vain



found - ed, what can shake your sure re - pose? With sal -
 riv - er ev - er will their thirst as - suage? Grace which,
 ban - ner light by night and shade by day, safe they
 plea - sures, all their boast - ed pomp and show; sol - id



va - tion's walls sur - round - ed, you may smile at all your foes.
 like the Lord, the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.
 feed up - on the man - na which God gives them on their way.
 joys and last - ing trea - sures none but Zi - on's chil - dren know.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.

Music: BLAENWERN, William P. Rowlands, 1860–1937

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray for the church, the world, and all people according to their needs.

Dear God, as we begin another school year, we are thankful for this opportunity to learn and grow together. We are grateful to have so many students, teachers, coaches and other school personnel with us, and we look forward to the year ahead. We ask you to bless those who are feeling nervous about the new year, and we are thankful that you are always with us, no matter where we are. Please help us to reach out to others who may be feeling alone or anxious this week, as we strive to share your love and our blessings with those around us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of Love, this is a difficult time for the world as we see so much war, violence, meanness and anger. At the same time, though, you bring light and hope to the world, and we see that in many different ways every day. Thank you for always being with us as we face these very large problems in the world, as well as the challenges we each face in our own lives. Please help us to reach out to others and to give them hope and comfort, too. And please also help us to remember that while we are all different in so many ways, we are all Your children because You made us in Your image. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of Peace, so many people live in danger and in fear in our world. Please be with everyone whose lives are filled with danger of any sort. We ask you to help our leaders around the world to work for peace instead of conflict. Please protect those who serve in the military, comfort military families, and bless our veterans. We ask you to also bless all refugees and help them to find comfort, respect, and acceptance. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of Compassion, we ask you to comfort those experiencing grief and loss and to relieve those who are suffering. Please also bring strength to those who are hospitalized, confined to homes, or undergoing tests. We pray for healing for anyone who is ill in mind, body, or spirit. Restore to wholeness those who are struggling with addictions. Bless our shut-ins and help us to bring them joy. Please hear us now as we ask for blessings for those we name aloud or in our hearts..... Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of Comfort, be with those to whom death draws near and those who have lost loved ones. Bring peace and comfort to all who mourn; knowing with the conviction of our faith that because you so loved the world that you gave your Chosen Son, who died and rose again, we too will have eternal life. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING – THANK YOU! YOUR GENEROSITY MAKES OUR MINISTRY POSSIBLE.

Giving is easy online through our website at <https://www.clcathens.org/give>

There you will also find instructions for how you can text to give or by downloading our church app!

OFFERTORY



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Creator God,
in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good
and the harvest is plentiful.
Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth
and our labor,
that we may work for the good of all;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

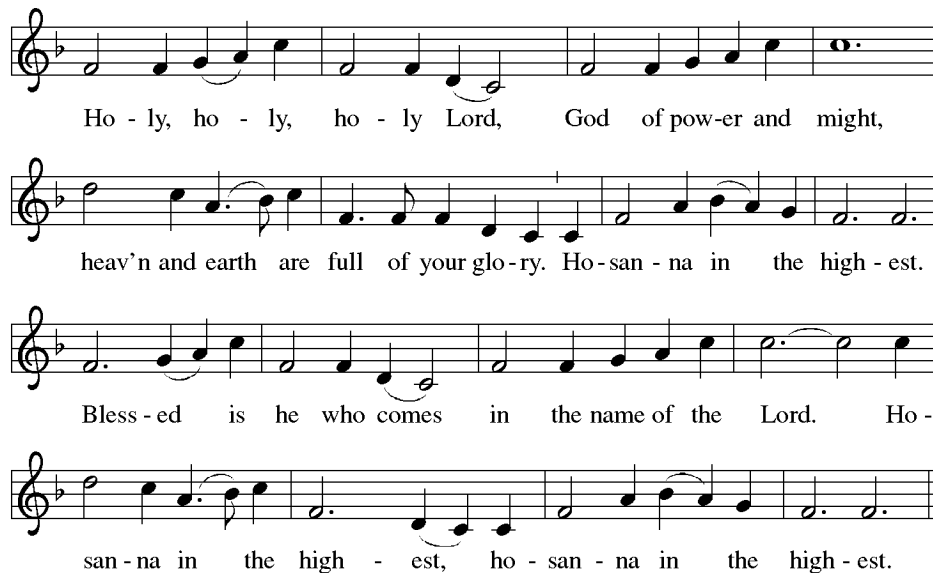
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God,
our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer,
in the harmonious world of your creation,
the plants and animals,
the seas and stars
were whole and well in your praise...

...Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.
Thanks be to God!

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Loving God,
you gathered us to your table
and we drank deeply of your grace.
Send us out by your Spirit
to love our neighbors as ourselves
and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The love of God abound in you;
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;
and the life of the Spirit
✠ bless you and give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING SONG***Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (ELW 631)***

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
3 Come, Al-might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788

Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

DISMISSAL

The service has ended. **The ministry begins!**

Go in peace! Live by the Spirit!

Thanks be to God.