# Christ Lutheran Church 1222 Vocke Road, LaVale, MD. 21502-7519

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# Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 17, 2025

#### THE WORSHIP SERVICE – 10:00 AM In-Person & Zoom

The word of God is a refining fire. Jesus is the great divide in human history. He invites our undivided attention and devotion. Today in worship we are surrounded by a great "cloud of witnesses." In the word and in holy communion we are invited yet again to look to Jesus, "the pioneer and perfecter of our faith."

#### WELCOME

#### Announcements & Prelude

# \* A Call to Worship

P: We are called by God,

C: Drawn to the water,

P: Sprinkled with love,

C: Claimed forever.

P: We are loved by God,

C: Never forgotten,

P: Treated as honored and precious,

C: Receiving divine blessing.

P: We are sent by God,

C: To be riend the world,

P: Cherish the young,

C: Comfort the grieving,

P: Lift up the fallen,

C: Forever singing of God's love.

# \* Confession and Forgiveness

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

C: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: 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.

P: 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.

C; Amen.

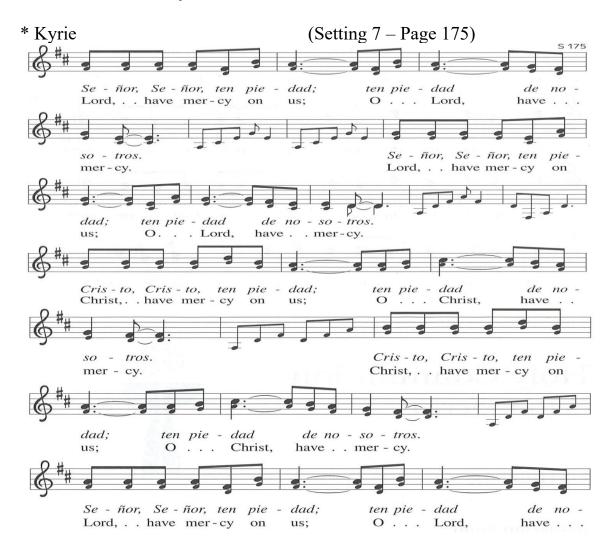
## \* Gathering Hymn 603

# "God, When Human Bonds Are Broken"

# \* Greeting

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

C: And also with you.





# \* Prayer of the Day

O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Lesson: *Isaiah 5:1-7*<sup>1</sup> I will sing for my beloved
my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.

<sup>2</sup> He dug it and cleared it of stones
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded rotten grapes.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard.
What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield rotten grapes?

<sup>5</sup> And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge,

and it shall be devoured;

I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.

I will make it a wasteland;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns;

I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.

<sup>7</sup> For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah are his cherished garden;
he expected justice but saw bloodshed;
righteousness but heard a cry! Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

Psalmody: Psalm 82

<sup>1</sup> God stands to charge the divine coun- | cil assembled, giving judgment in the midst | of the gods:

<sup>2</sup> "How long will you | judge unjustly, and show favor | to the wicked?

<sup>3</sup> Save the weak | and the orphan; defend the hum- | ble and needy;

<sup>4</sup> rescue the weak | and the poor; deliver them from the power | of the wicked.

- <sup>5</sup> They do not know, neither do they understand; they wander a- | bout in darkness; all the foundations of the | earth are shaken.
- <sup>6</sup> Now I say to you, <sup>1</sup> 'You are gods, and all of you children of <sup>1</sup> the Most High;
- <sup>7</sup> nevertheless, you shall | die like mortals, and fall like | any prince.' "
- <sup>8</sup> Arise, O God, and | rule the earth, for you shall take all nations | for your own.

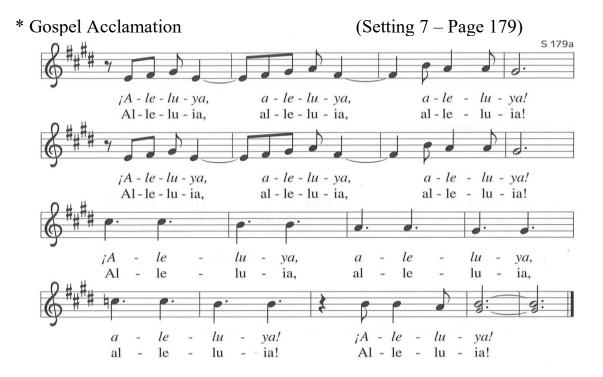
Second Lesson: Hebrews 11:29—12:2

<sup>29</sup> By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. <sup>30</sup> By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. <sup>31</sup> By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

<sup>32</sup> And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, <sup>33</sup> who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup> quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. <sup>35</sup> Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. <sup>36</sup> Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup> They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented <sup>38</sup> of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground.

<sup>39</sup> Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, <sup>40</sup> since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

<sup>12:1</sup> Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.** 



P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

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The Holy Gospel: Luke 12:49-56

Jesus said:] <sup>49</sup> "I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! <sup>50</sup> I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! <sup>51</sup> Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! <sup>52</sup> From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; <sup>53</sup> they will be divided:

father against son
and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

<sup>54</sup> He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain,' and so it happens. <sup>55</sup> And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat,' and it happens. <sup>56</sup> You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Daniel Swanson

**Hymn 700** 

"Bring Peace to Earth Again"

# \* 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.

The Prayer of the Church

\* Sharing of the Peace of the Lord

We Offer Our Gifts to the Lord Anthem Organ Voluntary

\* Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

\* The Offertory

Hymn

"Bring a Gift of Love"--Mary Kay Bottens

Bring a gift of love, bring a gift of love, bring a gift of love today.

Bring an offering to our Lord and King, tell the world he is the Way!

Bring a gift of love, bring a gift of love, bring a gift of love today.

In this quiet hour of worship, bring a gift of love.

# \* Offertory Prayer

L: 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.** 

# \* The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right ......and join their unending hymn:

(Holy, Holy Holy)

(Setting 7 – Page 181)



\* The Words of Institution

# \* 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.

P: The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

C: Amen. Thanks be to God.

# The Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) (Setting 7 – Page 182) S 182 Cor - de ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do; Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . . ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, ten pie-dad de no - so-tros. have .. mer-cy up - on us, have . . mer - cy up - on us. Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do; O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . . ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, ten pie-dad de no - so-tros. have .. mer-cy up - on us, have.. mer-cy up - on us. tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do; Cor - de ro de Dios, O Lamb of . . God, you .. take a-way the sin of the world; ...

da - nos

grant us

tu

paz.

your peace.

## Distribution of the Sacrament

da - nos

grant us

tu

paz,

your peace,

#### PAGE 14

# \* Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C: Amen.

# \* The Prayer after Communion

L: Mothering 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.

C: Amen

# \* Blessing

P: 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.

C: Amen.

# \* Sending Hymn 796

"How Firm a Foundation"

## \* Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.

### \* Postlude

In Bread and Wine our Lord Jesus meets us and we receive His Body and Blood given and shed for our forgiveness. It is a meal of love, forgiveness and renewal. If you are visiting with us today and are a baptized Christian and desire to commune, please do come to the table of the Lord. Children and youth who have not received instruction in the meaning of the Sacrament are cordially invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Please come toward as directed by ushers by the center aisle and return by the side aisles.

#### **Lectors for our Services**

This Sunday, August 17 –Anne DeVaughn Wednesday, August 20 – Debbie Fornwalt Next Sunday, August 24 – Jack Murray Next Wednesday, August 27 – Paul Chiarenza August Ushers – Ed & Lita Havens Organist – Kelly Schrecengost A/V – Steve, Dave, Joyce The Altar Flowers have been given to the glory of God in memory of parents by Dianne Short and family.

The Bulletins and Communion Bread and Wine have been given to the glory of God in recognition of Jack Murray's birthday today by Sally Buser.

The August Newsletter has been given to the glory of God by Sharon Diehl.

Save the Date! The Executive Council has designated August 24th as 'Ice Cream Sunday'. "Live music provided by RAGS." Everyone is invited to an ice cream social in the upper kitchen and the Pavilion (weather permitting) starting at 6 PM. There will be assorted flavors of ice cream with waffle cones as well as various syrups and toppings to make your own sundae if you prefer. Please bring a donation for the food pantry, back-to-school items, or 'stock the shelves' supplies. Monetary offerings will also be accepted during the event to replenish our reserves following the expense of repairing our roof. What better way to say 'goodbye' to summer? Look for sign-up in the main narthex!

We have a hearing assistance system in the sanctuary. If you are having problems hearing our service, please ask the usher for a receiver.

Hope that you have picked up your name tags from the board in the main entrance. They are in alphabetical order. Please return to the board when leaving. Thanks



#### **Garden News!**

Wow! What a difference hot weather makes in the garden! We are now harvesting herbs, cucumbers, beans, squashes, black

raspberries, peppers and tomatoes. The cucumbers are growing so fast that we can't keep up! We have replanted beans, squash, kale, cucumbers, lettuces and peas for a fall harvest. All produce goes to the food pantry. We would love to have you join us! **Don't forget!** Garden classes continue the first Saturday of each month through September at 11:00am.

From the LaVale pantry: Thank you for your 90lb of produce brought to the pantry from the garden this week. And everything but a couple of zucchinis went out to neighbors who needed food this week. It was really appreciated.

#### This week –

This Sunday –Worship - 10:00am followed by Adult Sunday School in the fellowship hall and blood pressure testing

Wednesday – Worship Service – 6:30pm

Next Sunday, Worship – 10:00am followed by Adult Sunday School in the fellowship hall Ice Cream Social – 6:00pm with "Live music provided by RAGS"

The Parish Nurses will be taking Blood pressures after the 10:00am Service next Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup>. Come have your checked!

Thanks to everyone who has kept the donations coming for the LaVale Food Pantry! For the month of August, we'd like to encourage you to donate breakfast/granola bars. We also welcome any other unopened and unexpired non-perishable food items.

Mission and Generosity has put their Listening Circle box on the table in the main narthex. There is pencils and paper by the box. Please make any suggestions for the topics that you would like to discuss. Thanks

Church Yard Sale – Fundraising is planning a smaller Christmas sale in October. If you have Christmas decorations that you were not able to bring before, this may be the time. Thanks again! Shirley

LAST WEEK'S REPORT – August 10, 2025

# BUDGET OFFERINGS FOR 2025 Received = \$3,679.82 Needed weekly = 4,044.04 ( 364.55)

# BUDGETED ACCOUNTS – JAN-JULY 2025 Actual Income = \$119,047.03 Actual Expenses = (126,772.26) (\$7,725.23)

**Looking for Lady Singers (Barber Shop Style)** They meet very Friday at 11:00am here at Christ Lutheran Church. If interested, call 814-324-4304 for more information.

### PARK PLACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 80 National Highway LaVale, MD 21502

IS COLLECTING school supplies, shoes, socks and underwear for local elementary schools and Westernport Elementary.

Supplies can be dropped off at the church on Tuesday mornings between 10:30 and 12:30 or Sunday morning between 11 am and 12:30 pm.

Collection till August 31st.



# **Native Plant Bingo**

# Saturday, September 6 at 11:00 AM

- · Join Master Gardener Sarah Llewellyn for a fun and educational morning
- Learn about plants native to our region and play a few rounds of bingo.
   Prizes will be native plants and seeds (Fall is a great time to plant natives!)
- · Registration is required

Frostburg Library 65 East Main Street Frostburg, MD 21532





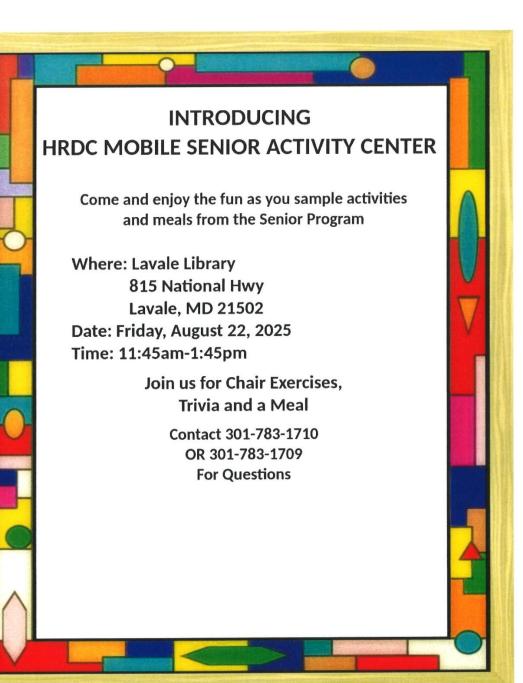
University programs, activities, and facilities are available to all without regard to race, color, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national origin, political affiliation, physical or mental disability, religion, protected veteran status, genetic information, personal appearance, or any other legally protected class.











#### PRAYER LIST FOR AUGUST 17, 2025

Christina Puffinburger

**PRAYER RECIPIENT** - **MEMBERS** Gail Dawson Jane Miller **Gary Llewellyn Dianne Short** Jack Zealand

Mitzie & Jerry Robinette

Barbara Martin **Patty Wilson Ed Havens** Clem Dawson Dave & Lisa Ahern Kim Shoemaker **Fay Crawford** David LaBuda

Bill & MarySue Crawford Rosev & Becky McIntyre Jonathan and Danielle Ahern

Tammy Faulkner Pam & Dave Judy **David Tibbetts** Joyce DeMonbrun **Kathy Powell Sharon McKenzie** 

**Mary Lou Rowles** 

Donna Yaider Laura Murray

Anna Bruck

PRAYER RECIPIENT

Requested by Elwood & Janet Glass Raymond Garthwait, Stephen Overtoom Gail Dawson

Charles Johnson, Barbara Williams Sharon M Joe Kunsman, Linda Nines, Ellen Hill Mitzie & Jerry Brittney Meyers, Talot Omar, Terry Baker Mitzie & Jerry

Nathan Winters Dianne Short

Arlene Simmons. Amy, Ed Troutman, Jacie Fairall Barb Simmons

Carl Chiarenza, Karen Mackert Paul & Ruth C Elise & Henry Jack Balber Jack Zealand Trina, Trinity, Asia, Faith Debbie & Pam Cheryl Trusler Joyce D Cheri Bielen Jane Miller

Baby Whetzel, Kevin Mistretta, Carolyn Farr, Kendra Morriss, Paula Rose Diane Dan Moore, Graham Tower, Lisa Storm, Jaime Pletcher, Karen Ford Diane K

Richard Clark, Zachary Sutterfield, Alexis Smith Anne DeVaughn Diane Davis, Nancy Smith, James Flynn Antoinette Royster Joy Kroeger-Mappes Carmen and Lance Jackson Antoinette Royster

Mary Jane Robertson Shirley & Jim Smith Gretchen Burke Val & Gary Llewellyn Sally, Roger, James Tibbets Dave Tibbetts Andy Cocco John Cocco **Taylor Neumann** Lita Havens Dan Carr, Matt Doman Steven Hansrote Pam Highland Sherry T Kristan Fazenbaker Don Ringer, Stephanie Georgiane Mary Lou Dorsey Trina Firev Vic Werner Barbara Martin

**Madeline Lopes** Al James Barbara Blough Janice & Dave LaBuda

Galen Dean Krepps Lisa Ahern

Jared McGensie, Stefan Twigg Patty Wilson and Rosey

Shirley Vought Gretchen Dix

Please keep us updated

Linda McCagh

- -the family of Glenda Kay Rossberg, Age 65
- -the family of Eunice Love, Age 71
- -the family of Cassandra Faye Webb Morton, Age 74
- -the family of Charlie Earl Owens, Age 77
- -all people affected by the wildfires and other disasters
- -all people of the Ukraine and all affected by the war
- -all elected officials
- -those who serve in our nation's armed forces including Rick Rounds, Tom Forrest

Belinda Keller



Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 17, 2025