

Christ Lutheran Church & The Bridge Campus Ministry

October 19, 2025 – 19th Sunday after Pentecost

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

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(PLEASE POWER OFF OR AIRPLANE MODE YOUR DEVICES)

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: Steve Chikosky; Time with Children: Puppets!; Ushers: Dan Snoddy, Tammy Thompson; Greeter: Chris Snoddy; Acolyte: Melody; Tray Server: Marilyn Shealy; Livestream: Kay Cleland*

INTRODUCTION

Pray always. Do not lose heart. This is Christ's encouragement in the gospel today. Wrestle with the word. Remember your baptism again and again. Come regularly to Christ's table. Persistence in our every encounter with the divine will be blessed.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart

CLC Choir

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin
in the presence of God and of one another.

Merciful and loving God,

we are your stiff-necked people.

We trample on the needy.

We grumble about your grace to others.

We turn away from the poor.

Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.

**Rejoice over us as ones who were lost
and have been found.**

Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.

Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.

You who were lost have been found.

In the name of ✙ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

Amen.

KYRIE

Leader sings parts marked "A"

Congregation sings parts marked "C"



A: We — pray for peace, O Lord, make plow-shares of our swords, make plow-shares of our



swords, hear us when we cry to you. C: Lord, have mer-cy on — us, have



mer-cy on us, Lord, have mer-cy on — us, hear us when we cry to you.



A: Christ, make us grow in grace un - til we see your face, un - til we see your



face, hear us when we cry to you. C: Christ, have mer-cy on — us, have



mer-cy on us, Christ have mer-cy on — us, hear us when we cry to you.



A: De - fend your Church, O Lord, and root it in — your word, and root it in — your



word, hear us when we cry to you. C: Lord, have mer-cy on — us, have



mer-cy on — us, Lord, have mer-cy on — us, hear our cry. A - men.

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 Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

FIRST READING: Genesis 32:22-31

A reading from Genesis.

²² The same night [Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴ Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷ So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸ Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed." ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved." ³¹ The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 121

- ¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills;
from where is my help to come?
- ² **My help comes from the LORD,
the maker of heaven and earth.**
- ³ The LORD will not let your foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.
- ⁴ **Behold, the keeper of Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep;**
- ⁵ the LORD watches over you;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand;
- ⁶ **the sun will not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**
- ⁷ The LORD will preserve you from all evil

and will keep your life.

⁸ **The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth forevermore.**

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 3:14—4:5

A reading from 2 Timothy.

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have known sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the person of God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

^{4:1} In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ² proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage with the utmost patience in teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵ As for you, be sober in everything, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Luke 18:1-8

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart.

² He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³ In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my accuser.' ⁴ For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.' " ⁶ And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸ I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

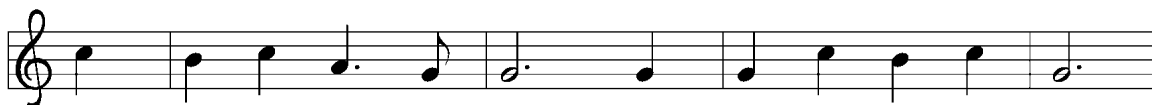
SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

When Morning Gilds the Skies (ELW 853)



1 When morn - ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing cries:
2 When mirth for mu - sic longs, this is my song of songs:
3 No love - lier an - ti - phon in all high heav'n is known
4 Let all of hu - man - kind in this their con - cord find:
5 Sing, sun and stars of space, sing, all who see his face,



may Je - sus Christ be praised! When eve - ning shad - ows fall,
may Je - sus Christ be praised! God's ho - ly house of prayer
than "Je - sus Christ be praised!" There to the e - ter - nal Word
may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let all the earth a - round
sing, "Je - sus Christ be praised!" God's whole cre - a - tion o'er,



this rings my cur - few call: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
has none that can com - pare with "Je - sus Christ be praised!"
the e - ter - nal psalm is heard: oh, Je - sus Christ be praised!
ring joy - ous with the sound: may Je - sus Christ be praised!
to - day and ev - er - more shall Je - sus Christ be praised!

Text: German hymn, 19th cent.; tr. Robert Bridges, 1844–1930, alt.
Music: LAUDES DOMINI, Joseph Barnby, 1838–1896

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord Jesus Christ, you tell us not to be afraid of what the future holds, not to worry about tomorrow, but you know how difficult we find it to heed your words. For we worry about so many things, our families, our friends, our circumstances, the future of our democracy, some are big worries, most are tiny ones (though they seem big to us). We come before you this day with these big and tiny worries, and with confidence we know we can lay them all at your feet.

We bring you our big worries about health and happiness and security for ourselves and for our loved ones.

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

We bring big worries about the world we live in and its future existence as we continue to fail to address so many ecological problems.

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

We bring big worries about the way people in our world are treated as less than human, exploited, tortured, helpless and abused.

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

God, we know that you are concerned with every aspect of our lives, so we also bring the little things that concern us, the worries which keep us awake at night, the worries which only you know. And now let us share our concerns, prayers and even celebrations, either aloud or in our hearts.....

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Living God, reach out to all those for whom the future brings fears and uncertainties. Assure them that you are with them, even when that future seems dark and circumstances feel like they are spiraling out of control. Remind them that you are able to transform even the bleakest of situations, and bring healing and wholeness.

Lord in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Lord we make our prayers in faith, for we know that your Spirit is at work in our world making all things new. **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!

CHORAL OFFERING *When Jesus Wept the Falling Tear* CLC Choir

OFFERTORY



1. Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring To place up - on your ta - ble.
2. The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.
3. Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares We lift in pray'r be - fore you.



We do not wor - ship as we ought But on - ly as we're a - ble.
What once was com - mon, dai - ly food Be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
Lord, by your grace, now come to us As hum - bly we a - dore you.

OFFERING PRAYER

Lord of the harvest,
we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.
Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,
but on you, who richly provides for us.
Multiply what we have gathered
to bless all who are suffering and in need,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

DIALOGUE

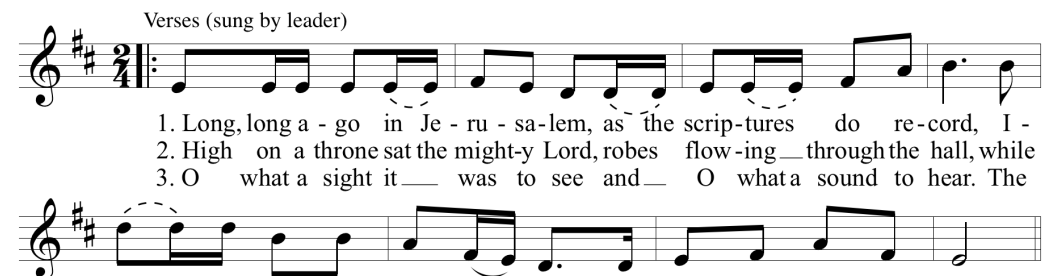
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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

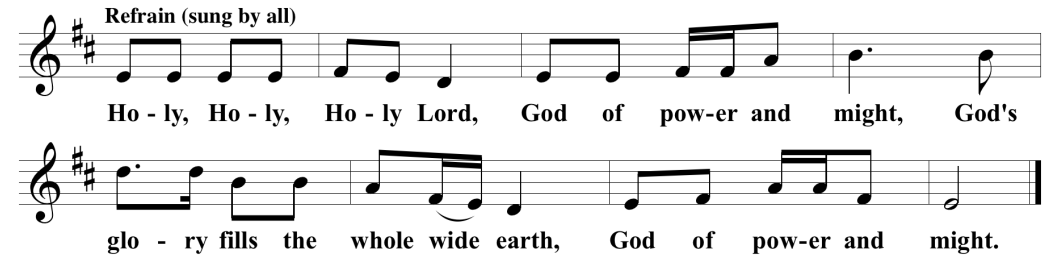
Verses (sung by leader)



1. Long, long a - go in Je - ru - sa - lem, as the scrip - tures do re - cord, I -
2. High on a throne sat the might-y Lord, robes flow - ing through the hall, while
3. O what a sight it was to see and O what a sound to hear. The

sa - iah to the tem - ple came to see the ho - ly Lord.
six - wing - ed an - gels flew a - bove. I - sa - iah heard them call.
tem - ple door - posts shook and quaked, and smoke was in the air.

Refrain (sung by all)



Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, God's
glo - ry fills the whole wide earth, God of pow - er and might.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God,
 our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,
 you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.
You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,
 and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.
You sent your Son to eat with sinners
 and to become food for the world.
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.
Remembering, therefore,
 his life given for us
 and his rising from the grave,
 we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.
By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:
 strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want,
 and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.
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

Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those
 who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
 and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours,
 now and forever. Amen.

LAMB OF GOD

1. O Lamb of God, _____ to earth you came _____ To
2. O Lamb of God, _____ the on - ly Son, _____ To

save us all _____ from grief and shame. _____ Shorn of your life, _____ up -
us show mer - cy, Ho - ly One. _____ You save the world _____ from

on the tree _____ You hung in deep hu - mil - i - ty. _____
all its sin. _____ Lord, give to us your peace. A - men. _____

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.

Come to this meal of mercy.

Thanks be to God!

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God,
through this meal you have strengthened us
and appointed us to be your servants.
Send us to do good and to share our possessions
with all in need.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The God of righteousness,
who gives justice to the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry,
who sets the prisoners free,
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Jesus, Still Lead On (ELW 624)



1 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; and, al-though the
 2 If the way be drear, if the foe be near, let no faith - less
 3 When we seek re - lief from a long-felt grief, when temp-ta - tions
 4 Je - sus, still lead on, till our rest be won; heav'n-ly lead - er,



way be cheer - less, we will fol - low, calm and fear - less;
 fears o'er - take us, let not faith and hope for - sake us;
 come al - lur - ing, make us pa - tient and en - dur - ing;
 still di - rect us, still sup - port, con - sole, pro - tect us,



guide us by your hand to the prom - ised land.
 safe - ly past the foe to our home we go.
 show us that bright shore where we weep no more.
 till we safe - ly stand in the prom - ised land.

Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700–1760; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt.
 Music: SEELENBRÄUTIGAM, Adam Drese, 1620–1701

DISMISSAL

The service has ended.

The ministry begins!

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

Thanks be to God.