

Christ Lutheran Church
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Mission Statement – “*Loving God, Loving People*”

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2026

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

As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

WELCOME

Announcements

Prelude

*** A Call to Worship**

P: The grace of God

C: was given to us in Christ Jesus

P: before the beginning of time,

C: but it has now been revealed

P: through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus,

C: who has destroyed death

P: and has brought life and immortality

C: to light through the gospel.

P: It is this grace and faith

C: we proclaim and hold on to.

P: It is this God and Savior

C: we worship.

P: Let us praise and adore our living Lord.

* Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,

C: we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray,

Amen.

P: Jesus says, "Come to me,

all you who are weary

and are carrying heavy burdens,

and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,

Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,

your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

C: Amen.

* **Gathering Hymn 761**

"Evening and Morning"

* 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.

Kyrie

(Setting 7 – Page 175)

5 175



Se - ñor, Se - ñor, ten pie - dad; ten pie - dad de no -
Lord, . . have mer - cy on us; O . . . Lord, have . . .

so - tros. mer - cy. Se - ñor, Se - ñor, ten pie -
Lord, . . have mer - cy on

dad; ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.
us; O . . . Lord, have . . mer - cy.

Cris - to, Cris - to, ten pie - dad; ten pie - dad de no -
Christ, . . have mer - cy on us; O . . . Christ, have . .

so - tros. mer - cy. Cris - to, Cris - to, ten pie -
Christ, . . have mer - cy on

dad; ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.
us; O . . . Christ, have . . mer - cy.

Se - ñor, Se - ñor, ten pie - dad; ten pie - dad de no -
Lord, . . have mer - cy on us; O . . . Lord, have . . .

so - tros,
mer - cy.

Se - ñor, Se - ñor, ten pie -
Lord, . . have mer - cy on

dad;
us;

ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.
O . . . Lord, have . . mer - cy.

* Gloria

(Setting 7 – Page 176)

S 176

¡Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria en las al - tu - ras a Dios!
Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!

¡Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria en las al - tu - ras a Dios!
Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!

Y en la tie - rra paz pa - ra a - que - llos que a - ma el Se - ñor.
And on earth . . . peace to God's peo - ple. Glo - ry to God.

Y en la tie - rra paz pa - ra a - que - llos que a - ma el Se - ñor.
And on earth . . . peace to God's peo - ple. Glo - ry to God.

* Prayer of the Day

Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

First Lesson: *1 Kings 3:5-12*

⁵ At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” ⁶ And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷ And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸ And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹ Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?”

¹⁰ It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹ God said to him, “Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹² I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you.” Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody: *Psalm 119:129-136*

¹²⁹ Your de- | crees are wonderful;
therefore I obey them with | all my heart.

¹³⁰ **When your word is opened | it gives light;
it gives understanding | to the simple.**

¹³¹ I open my | mouth and pant
because I long for | your commandments.
¹³² **Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,**
as you always do to those who | love your name.

¹³³ Order my footsteps | in your word;
let no iniquity have dominion | over me.
¹³⁴ **Rescue me from those | who oppress me,**
and I will keep | your commandments.

¹³⁵ Let your face shine up- | on your servant
and teach | me your statutes.
¹³⁶ **My eyes shed | streams of tears,**
because people do not | keep your teaching.

Second Lesson: *Romans 8:26-39*

²⁶ The Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸ We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who

is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword?³⁶ As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

* Gospel Acclamation

(Setting 7 – Page 179)

S 179a

A - le - lu - ya, Al - le - lu - ia, a - le - lu - ya, al - le - lu - ia, a - le - lu - ya! al - le - lu - ia!

A - le - lu - ya, Al - le - lu - ia, a - le - lu - ya, al - le - lu - ia, a - le - lu - ya! al - le - lu - ia!

A - le - lu - ya, Al - le - lu - ia, a - le - lu - ya, al - le - lu - ia, a - le - lu - ya! al - le - lu - ia!

A - le - lu - ya! Al - le - lu - ia!

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 13th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

The Holy Gospel: *Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52*

³¹ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

³³ He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

⁴⁴ “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ “Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” ⁵² And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

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

Sermon

Pastor Daniel Swanson

Hymn 793

“Be Thou My Vision”

* 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

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: Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. **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 rightand join their unending hymn:

* (Holy, Holy Holy)

(Setting 7 – Page 181)

[illegible]

* 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: Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

C: Amen. Thanks be to God.

The Agnus Dei (*Lamb of God*)

(Setting 7 – Page 182)

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.

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,
have . . mer-cy up-on us,

ten pie-dad de no-so-tros,
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; . .

da-nos tu paz,
grant us your peace,

da-nos tu paz,
grant us your peace,

Distribution of the Sacrament

* 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: Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

C: Amen

* Blessing

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, † one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always. **Amen.**

* **Sending Hymn 966 ACS “Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken”**

1 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken by the
 2 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken in a
 3 Loaves are bro - ken, words are spo - ken, as in
 4 By the loaves you break and give us, send us



Gal - i - le - an shore. Je - sus, Bread of life from
 qui - et room one night. In the bread and wine you
 faith we gath - er here. Je - sus speaks a - cross the
 in your name to share bread for which the mil - lions



heav - en, was their food for - ev - er - more.
 gave them, Christ, you came as Light from Light.
 a - ges: "I am with you; do not fear!"
 hun - ger, words that tell your love and care.



By your bod - y bro - ken for us, by your



wine of life out - poured, Je - sus, feed a - gain your



peo - ple. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923-2007

Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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* Dismissal

L: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

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, July 26 – Sally Buser

This Wednesday, July 29 – Paul Chiarenza

Next Sunday, August 2 – Anne Devaughn

Next Wednesday, August 5 – Lydia Martin

Ushers – Jack Murray, Jim Smith

Organist – Rae Ann Smith

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

A sign-up for after church snacks is in the narthex. Please pick a Sunday to share your goodies! Store bought is just fine if you need easy! Thanks.

The Altar Flowers have been given to the glory of God in memory of my sister, Betty Kroll by Rae Ann Smith

The July's Newsletter has been given to the glory of God in honor of Gary & Val Llewellyn's Wedding Anniversary.

This week –

This Sunday – July 26, Worship – 10:00am followed by Adult SCS – 11:30pm

Wednesday – Worship – 6:30pm

Thursday – Bible Study – 10:30am, Fine tone Yard Sale – 9:00am

Friday-Saturday – Yard Sale – 8:00am-2:00pm

Next Sunday, August 2, Worship – 10:00am followed by Adult SCS – 11:30pm

"Summertime means kids are out of school and families are in need more than ever! As you're shopping, **please grab a few extra items for the LaVale Food Pantry.** Frequently needed items are saltine crackers, boxes of pasta and pasta sauce, peanut butter, cereal and shelf-stable milk. Thanks for your continued generosity!"

Remember our church Yard Sale – July 31 and August 1 from 8-2:00pm. You may still bring your donations thru Thursday, July 30th. Please place in the fellowship hall or the side entrance. If you or your friends enjoy Yard Sales, please come help. See Shirley.

Our Worship & Music Committee would like to buy copies of our new hymnal – All Creation Sings (Supplement to Evangelical Lutheran Worship) to be available in our pews. If you are interested in helping to purchase these hymnals, please write on a piece of paper or envelope the number that you are purchasing and how you want the honor/memory to read and enclosed with your check (payable to CLC). **The cost is \$15.00 per hymnal.** You may put this in the offering plate or bring to the church office. For more information, please see Pastor Daniel or a member of the Worship & Music

If you wish to contribute a little extra to our budget line, please consider signing up for our Bulletin, Communion Bread & Wine or Newsletter sponsorships. We still have many weeks available. This is a wonderful way to honor or remember that special someone in your life.

LAST WEEK'S REPORT – July 19, 2026

Attendance	In-Person 10:00am = 45	Adult SCS = n/a
	Zoom 10:00am = 12	
Wed. July 22	In Person 6:30pm = 8	
	Zoom = 2	

BUDGET OFFERINGS FOR 2026

Received	=	3,579.00
Needed weekly	=	<u>4,265.56</u>
	(\$	686.56)

BUDGETED ACCOUNTS – JAN-JUNE 2026

Actual Income	=	\$100,470.02
Actual Expenses	=	<u>(114,215.14)</u>
		(\$13,745.12)

Christ Lutheran Church in LaVale, MD

{Summer Indoor}



* * * Great bargain prices...You can shop till you drop* * *

When: July 24 & 25, 2026 from 8:00am – 2:00pm

and

July 31 & August 1, 2026 from 8:00am – 2:00pm

Location: Christ Lutheran Church

1222 Vocke Road

LaVale, MD 21502

*Lots of household items to buy such as books, clothing, furniture,
home décor, toys and more...*

PRAYER LIST FOR JULY 26, 2026

PRAYER RECIPIENT - MEMBERS

Jeff Smith
Bill & MarySue Crawford
Linda & Dave McCagh
Sally Buser
Barb & James Simmons
Doris Baker
Finn Stewart
Mitzie & Jerry Robinette
Ruth Chiarenza
Pam Mulligan
Terri McCagh
Patty Wilson
Jane Miller
Jack Zealand
Sharon Diehl
Anna Bruck
Ed Havens
Gail Dawson
Clem Dawson
Dave & Lisa Ahern
Kim Shoemaker
Fay Crawford
David LaBuda
Rosey & Becky McIntyre
Jonathan and Danielle Ahern
Tammy Faulkner
Pam & Dave Judy
David Tibbetts
Joyce DeMonbrun
Kathy Powell
Sharon McKenzie
Nancy & George Small

- the family of Donna Yaider
- the family of William Mecca
- the family of Paula Rose
- the family of Donald B. Royster II, the family of Sean Michael Royster
- all people affected by the wildfires and other disasters
- all people that are affected by the war
- all elected officials
- those who serve in our nation's armed forces including Rick Rounds, Tom Forrest, Luke Smith

PRAYER RECIPIENT

Brad & Gregg Dawson, Stephen Overtoom	<i>Requested by</i> Gail Dawson
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. Charlotte & Ed Troutman, Amy, Jacie Fairall	Barb Simmons
Karen Mackert	Paul & Ruth C
Elise & Henry Jack Balber	Jack Zealand
Tony Greaver, Betty Llewellyn/Cartwright, Cheryl Trusler	Joyce D
Owen Dolan, Shepherd Grace	Sherry Tedrow
Cheri Bielen	Jane Miller
Bernard Michael, Carolyn Farr,	Diane K.
Graham Tower, 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
Gretchen Burke	Val & Gary Llewellyn
Sally, Roger, James Tibbets	Dave Tibbetts
Andy Cocco	John Cocco
Ashley Turnbull, Marie Turnbull	Lita Havens
Dan Carr, Matt Doman	Steven Hansrote
Don Ringer, Stephanie Georgiane	Kristan Fazenbaker
Mary Lou Dorsey	Trina Firey
Vic Werner	Barbara Martin
Marion Boone, Belinda Keller	Linda McCagh
Barbara Blough	Janice & Dave LaBuda
Paul Haddle, Galen Dean Krepps	Lisa Ahern
Jared McGensie, Chris Twigg	Patty Wilson and Rosey
Breanna Brown	Debbie Fornwalt
Kamryn Rice	Corinna Hilderbrand
Candy Heverly	Charlotte Luy
Elizabeth Ororke, Brooks Chamers, Barbara Fridengu	L. Marchini
Erin Morrissey	Terri McCagh
Teddy Rankin	Fred & Kathy Powell
Alicia, Joel, Ella (finding a home)	

Please keep us updated



July 26, 2026
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost