

Christ Lutheran Church  
1222 Vocke Road, LaVale, MD. 21502-7519  
Telephone 301-729-1010  
Website: CLCLaVale.org  
E-Mail: [christlutheran@atlanticbbn.net](mailto:christlutheran@atlanticbbn.net)  
Mission Statement – “*Loving God, Loving People*”

***Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost***

September 20, 2026

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

*Matthew narrates one of Jesus’ controversial parables in which Jesus says that the reign of God is like that of a landowner who pays his workers the same wage no matter what time of day they began to work. When God changes God’s mind about punishing Nineveh for their evil ways, Jonah is angry. Yet God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love. In baptism we receive the grace of God that is freely given to all. As Martin Luther wrote, in the presence of God’s mercy we are all beggars.*

**WELCOME**

Announcements

Prelude

**\* A Call to Worship**

**P:** We gather here as the people of God.

**C: To do the work of God.**

**P:** We gather here as a people of love and hope.

**C: To be for the world the grace of Christ.**

**ALL: Let it be so Amen.**

**\* Confession and Forgiveness**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who pours love into our hearts  
and healing upon the earth.

**C: Amen.**

P: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,  
let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Compassionate God,

**C: we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness  
in the world and in our own hearts.**

**Creation groans from overuse.**

**Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.**

**Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.**

**Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love  
to others.**

**Turn our hearts back to you.**

**Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.**

**Renew us to live as your holy people,  
following the way of Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

P: Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ,  
in whom there is no condemnation,  
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.  
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

**C: Amen.**

\* 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.

\* Gloria

(Setting 6 – Page 167)

*Refrain* S 167

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of several staves of music with lyrics underneath. The score includes a 'Refrain' section and two numbered verses. The lyrics are: 'Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth. 1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. Refrain Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth. 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:'

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace  
to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the  
high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.  
1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa-ther,  
we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.  
*Refrain*  
Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace  
to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the  
high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.  
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,  
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:



have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right



hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



*Refrain*  
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo - ple on earth. Glo - ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a -



lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly



Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.



*Final refrain*  
Glo - ry to God in the high - est.



A - men, a - men.

**\* Prayer of the Day**

**Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

First Lesson: *Jonah 3:10—4:11*

<sup>10</sup> When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it.

<sup>4:1</sup> But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. <sup>2</sup> He prayed to the LORD and said, “O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. <sup>3</sup> And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” <sup>4</sup> And the LORD said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” <sup>5</sup> Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

<sup>6</sup> The LORD God appointed a bush and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort, so Jonah was very happy about the bush. <sup>7</sup> But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. <sup>8</sup> When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

<sup>9</sup> But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” <sup>10</sup> Then the LORD said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a

night. <sup>11</sup> And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?"

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalmody: *Psalms 145:1-8*

<sup>1</sup> I will exalt you, my | God and king,  
and bless your name forev- | er and ever.

<sup>2</sup> **Every day | will I bless you**  
**and praise your name forev- | er and ever.**

<sup>3</sup> Great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised!  
There is no end | to your greatness.

<sup>4</sup> **One generation shall praise your works | to another**  
**and shall de- | clare your power.**

<sup>5</sup> I will speak of the glorious splendor | of your majesty  
and all your | marvelous works.

<sup>6</sup> **They shall tell of the might of your | wondrous acts,**  
**and I will re- | count your greatness.**

<sup>7</sup> They shall publish the remembrance of | your great goodness;  
they shall sing joyfully | of your righteousness.

<sup>8</sup> **The LORD is gracious and full | of compassion,**  
**slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.**

Second Lesson: *Philippians 1:21-30*

<sup>21</sup> For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. <sup>22</sup> If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. <sup>23</sup> I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, <sup>24</sup> but to remain in the flesh is more

necessary for you. <sup>25</sup> Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, <sup>26</sup> so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me.

<sup>27</sup> Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel <sup>28</sup> and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. <sup>29</sup> For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, <sup>30</sup> since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

\* Gospel Acclamation

(Setting 6 – Page 171)

S 171a

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 20<sup>th</sup> chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

The Holy Gospel: *Matthew 20:1-16*

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup> “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup> After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup> When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, <sup>4</sup> and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. <sup>5</sup> When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. <sup>6</sup> And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ <sup>7</sup> They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ <sup>8</sup> When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ <sup>9</sup> When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received a denarius. <sup>10</sup> Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. <sup>11</sup> And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, <sup>12</sup> saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ <sup>13</sup> But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius?’ <sup>14</sup> Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. <sup>15</sup> Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ <sup>16</sup> So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon *Director of Generosity and Strategic Engagement for the  
Delaware-Maryland Synod*

Emma Wagner

**Hymn 689**

**“Praise and Thanksgiving”**

\* 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  
Chancel Choir

\* 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: God of creation,  
 you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.  
 All blessings are from you;  
 make us generous with what we have.  
 Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts  
 in service to you and in love to our neighbors,  
 today and always. **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 6 – Page 173)

S 173

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, Lord God of pow-er and might,  
 heav-en 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.

\* 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: Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

C: Amen. Thanks be to God.

The Agnus Dei (*Lamb of God*)

(Setting 6 – Page 174)

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the

world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-

way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us 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: Sustaining God, with this bread and cup,  
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.  
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.  
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,  
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen**

\* Blessings for Anne DeVaughn as she moves to a new home in Towson

\* Blessing

P: The God of love  
draw you into full accord and one mind,  
in the body of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

P: The God of hope  
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances  
through the interceding of the Spirit. **Amen.**

P: The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

\* **Sending Hymn 546**

**“To Be Your Presence”**

\* Dismissal

L: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

**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, September 20 – Jack Murray   | <b>Ushers</b> – Kameron Brooks, Bill Bingman |
| This Wednesday, September 23– No Service  | <b>Organist</b> – Lea Ann Alter              |
| Next Sunday, September 27– Gary Llewellyn | <b>AV</b> – Steve Hansrote, Mark Lathrop     |
| Next Wednesday, September 30 – No Service | Joyce DeMonbrun                              |

**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 bulletins have been given to the glory of God by Antoinette Royster in memory of her parents, Robert Lee Royster and Hattie Mae Royster; her siblings, Ronald Sylvester Lewis Royster and Deborah Carol Royster Lewis; plus her great-uncle and great-aunt, Augustus Lewis and Leita Louise Lewis.*

*The Communion Bread and Wine have been given to the glory of God in memory of my mother, Emma Meese at her birthday by Shirley & Jim Smith.*

*The September Newsletter has been given to the glory of God by Dianne & Ray Short.*

### **This week –**

This Sunday – September 20, Worship – 10:00am, God-Speed for Anne DeV Vaughn  
followed by reception

Monday – Strategic Planning – 6:30pm

Wednesday – Worship – No Service, Wheelman group on the pavilion – 5:00pm

Thursday – Reach Meal Committee – 4:30pm

Friday – Diane's Music class – 12:00noon lunch and music, Ladybirds – 11:00am

Next Sunday, Worship – 10:00am lead by Rev Martha Macgill

**“Last Call”** to order a hymnal. We now have 33 copies donated. If you wish to donate, please let us know now! **The cost is \$15.00 per hymnal.** You may put this in the offering plate or bring to the church office.

**No Wednesday Services on September 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>** due to Pastor being away on vacation. *Rev. Martha Macgill will be leading our service next Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.*

During our Cumberland Interfaith Ministerial Association (CAIMA) meeting on Wednesday, **Pastor Alexa gave us an update on relief efforts that are still underway for the people in Westernport and Coney.** Pastor Alexa has been trying since the flood to get contractors to her home to do repairs. Some workers are just now coming to her home.

Following is a link to the Long Term Recovery Group. They are still seeking volunteers to help with both skilled (dry wall, etc.) and unskilled work (for example, hauling materials to a site in a truck: if you have a pickup and can drive but cannot do heavy lifting, they will load and unload it with needed supplies.)

<https://www.westernmdltr.org/general-4>

**Crafts in the upper kitchen on the first Friday of each month from 1-3:00pm.**

On October 2<sup>nd</sup>, bring your own craft and quilting. November 6<sup>th</sup>, Elaine Reuschlein will teach making getting cards with fabric. December 4<sup>th</sup>, Margie Orth will teach Iris paper folding. Start saving interesting paper designs to bring (wrapping paper - calendar thickness).

**Chicken Dinner and Talent Show at St Luke’s Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall at 1601 Frederick Street on October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00pm.** Cost: Adults to age 11: \$15.00, youth age 10-4: \$7.50, children age 3 and under free. Tickets are available by calling Carol Straw 240-803-9292. Sponsored by: The St. Luke’s Women of the ELCA ( See poster by the side entrance.)

#### LAST WEEK’S REPORT – September 13, 2026

|                                   |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Attendance In-Person 10:00am = 46 | Adult SCS = 12 (Listening Circle) |
| Zoom 10:00am = 8                  | Bible Study 9/10 = 7              |
| Wed. Sept 9 In Person 6:30pm = 11 |                                   |
| Zoom = 2                          |                                   |

#### BUDGET OFFERINGS FOR 2026

|                 |   |                 |
|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| Received        | = | 5,177.00        |
| Needed weekly = |   | <u>4,265.56</u> |
|                 |   | \$ 911.44       |

#### BUDGETED ACCOUNTS – JAN-AUG 2026

|                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Actual Income =   | \$138,242.39        |
| Actual Expenses = | <u>(146,533.69)</u> |
|                   | (\$ 8,291.30)       |

## PRAYER LIST FOR SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

### PRAYER RECIPIENT - MEMBERS

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

### PRAYER RECIPIENT

|                                                                        |                                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Brad &amp; Gregg Dawson, Stephen Overtom</b>                        | <i>Requested by</i><br>Gail Dawson |
| <b>Barbara Williams</b>                                                | Sharon M                           |
| <b>Joe Kunsman, Linda Nines, Ellen Hill</b>                            | Mitzie & Jerry                     |
| <b>Brittney Meyers, Talot Omar, Terry Baker</b>                        | Mitzie & Jerry                     |
| <b>Nathan Winters</b>                                                  | Dianne Short                       |
| <b>Arlene Simmons, Charlotte &amp; Ed Troutman, Amy, Jacie Fairall</b> | Barb Simmons                       |
| <b>Karen Mackert</b>                                                   | Paul & Ruth C                      |
| <b>Elise &amp; Henry Jack Balber</b>                                   | Jack Zealand                       |
| <b>Tony Greaver, Betty Llewellyn/Cartwright, Cheryl Trusler</b>        | Joyce D                            |
| <b>Owen Dolan, Shepherd Grace</b>                                      | Sherry Tedrow                      |
| <b>Cheri Bielen</b>                                                    | Jane Miller                        |
| <b>Bernard Michael, Carolyn Farr,</b>                                  | Diane K.                           |
| <b>Graham Tower, Jaime Pletcher, Karen Ford</b>                        | Diane K                            |
| <b>Richard Clark, Zachary Sutterfield, Alexis Smith</b>                | Anne DeVaughn                      |
| <b>Diane Davis, Nancy Smith, James Flynn</b>                           | Antoinette Royster                 |
| <b>Joy Kroeger-Mappes Carmen and Lance Jackson</b>                     | Antoinette Royster                 |
| <b>Gretchen Burke</b>                                                  | Val & Gary Llewellyn               |
| <b>Sally, Roger, James Tibbets</b>                                     | Dave Tibbetts                      |
| <b>Andy Cocco</b>                                                      | John Cocco                         |
| <b>Ashley Turnbull, Marie Turnbull</b>                                 | Lita Havens                        |
| <b>Dan Carr, Matt Doman</b>                                            | Steven Hansrote                    |
| <b>Don Ringer, Stephanie Georgiane</b>                                 | Kristan Fazenbaker                 |
| <b>Mary Lou Dorsey</b>                                                 | Trina Firey                        |
| <b>Vic Werner</b>                                                      | Barbara Martin                     |
| <b>Marion Boone, Belinda Keller</b>                                    | Linda McCagh                       |
| <b>Barbara Blough</b>                                                  | Janice & Dave LaBuda               |
| <b>Paul Haddle, Galen Dean Krepps</b>                                  | Lisa Ahern                         |
| <b>Jared McGensie, Chris Twigg</b>                                     | Patty Wilson and Rosey             |
| <b>Breanna Brown</b>                                                   | Debbie Fomwalt                     |
| <b>Kamryn Rice</b>                                                     | Corinna Hilderbrand                |
| <b>Candy Heverly</b>                                                   | Charlotte Luy                      |
| <b>Elizabeth Ororke, Brooks Chamers, Barbara Fridengu</b>              | L. Marchini                        |
| <b>Erin Morrissey</b>                                                  | Terri McCagh                       |
| <b>Teddy Rankin</b>                                                    | Fred & Kathy Powell                |

*Please keep us updated*

- for Nepal and for all those affected by this devastating disaster.
- 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: Tom Forrest, Luke Smith



*September 20, 2026*  
*Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost*