

**11th Sunday after Pentecost**

**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH** | Lodi, California

*August 13, 2023*

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church. We pray that your soul will be strengthened by the good news about God’s grace, love, and forgiveness given to us. If you would like to learn more about our church, please speak with our pastor or one of our members after the service.

* **Bathrooms** are located in the fellowship hall. A changing table is located in the women’s bathroom.

**WORSHIP THEME**

*One of our biggest fears is that we won’t have enough. Putting food on the table and paying the bills takes up so much of our time and our energy that we can become blind to every other need and priority. Jesus invites us to see that he is able to provide us with abundant blessings, to trust that he will always meet our needs, and to seek the greater blessings that he offers.*

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***The Service of the Word***

*We gather as a congregation to hear God’s Word proclaimed and respond with prayer, praise, and thanksgiving.*

**HYMN** *Today Your Mercy Calls Us* **| CW 339**

M: The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

**CONFESSION**

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus my Savior I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin and take away my guilt.**

# absolution

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lor Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C**: **Amen**

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**C: ♫ Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed are they who take refuge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your faithfulness continues forever. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed are they who take refuge in him.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

M: Let us pray.

O God, you reveal your mighty power chiefly in showing mercy and kindness. Grant us the full measure of your grace that we may obtain your promises and become partakers of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

**FIRST LESSON** *Genesis 41:41–49*

*In the face of coming famine, God provided for the land of Egypt through Joseph. But God was providing for Joseph and many others even greater blessings by preserving his promises to the family of our Savior.*

**41**So Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I hereby put you in charge of the whole land of Egypt.” **42**Then Pharaoh took his signet ring from his finger and put it on Joseph’s finger. He dressed him in robes of fine linen and put a gold chain around his neck. **43**He had him ride in a chariot as his second-in-command, and people shouted before him, “Make way!” Thus he put him in charge of the whole land of Egypt.

**44**Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I am Pharaoh, but without your word no one will lift hand or foot in all Egypt.” **45**Pharaoh gave Joseph the name Zaphenath-Paneah and gave him Asenath daughter of Potiphera, priest of On, to be his wife. And Joseph went throughout the land of Egypt.

**46**Joseph was thirty years old when he entered the service of Pharaoh king of Egypt. And Joseph went out from Pharaoh’s presence and traveled throughout Egypt. **47**During the seven years of abundance the land produced plentifully. **48**Joseph collected all the food produced in those seven years of abundance in Egypt and stored it in the cities. In each city he put the food grown in the fields surrounding it. **49**Joseph stored up huge quantities of grain, like the sand of the sea; it was so much that he stopped keeping records because it was beyond measure.

**PSALM** *Psalms 42&43, page 82*

**SECOND LESSON** *1 Timothy 4:1–5*

*We are able to enjoy the blessings of this life because we know that the Lord has given them. We give thanks to our gracious God.*

**4**The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. **2**Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. **3**They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth. **4**For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving, **5**because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.

**VERSE OF THE DAY** *John 14:23*

**Alleluia. Jesus replied, “If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.” Alleluia.**

**THE GOSPEL** *Matthew 14:13–21*

*Jesus feeds the five thousand.*

**13**When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. **14**When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

**15**As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a remote place, and it’s already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food.”

**16**Jesus replied, “They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.”

**17**“We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish,” they answered.

**18**“Bring them here to me,” he said. **19**And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. **20**They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. **21**The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

M This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say***| CW 338**

**SERMON** *Matthew 14*

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,**

**maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy Christian Church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**OFFERING**

*In response to God’s love and forgiveness, we give back a portion of what he has given us. The members of Christ Lutheran Church have joined to proclaim the gospel to this community. These offerings support that work. While our guests are welcome to participate, they should not feel obligated to do so.*

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

M: In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

M: In thanksgiving for our bodies and souls, gifts of our glorious Creator, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: We give you thanks, O God.**

M: In lament for our sin, for death in this world and for the creation now subject to futility, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

M: In faith, for the forgiveness that Christ has won by His blood and for the new life of righteousness that comes from His grace, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: We give you thanks, O God.**

M: For the people of God, in whose hearts His Word dwells, that they may have courage to confess Christ before the world, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

M: For all pastors, church planters and congregations, for their hope, renewal and endurance; and for all those who go where we cannot, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: We give you thanks, O God.**

M: For trust in the Lord, that we may have confidence in all He has promised to bestow on us each day, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

M: For those in need, that their hearts would not waver from Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

M: Gracious Lord, give ear to the prayers of Your people and lead us to trust in Your mercy without fear, that we may be confident that You will grant to us all things needful to us and our salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

**C: 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.**

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**THE BLESSING**

M**:** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✙ give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN** *Come, My Soul, With Every Care* **| CW 409**

A black and white drawing of fish and dumplings

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Pastor Tim Leistekow

**WELCOME TO CHRIST EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH!**

We preach a message of forgiveness, hope and peace

through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Families and individuals of all ages will find opportunities

both to grow and to serve.

Our mission statement:

**Look what Christ is doing!**

He binds us together in fellowship

He gathers us in for worship

He builds us up for service

He sends us out with the gospel

*“Now you are the body of Christ,*

*and each one of you is a part of it.”*

*(1 Corinthians 12:27)*