

**6th Sunday after Pentecost**

**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH** | Lodi, California

*July 9, 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**

*The disciple of Jesus loves Jesus more than all. What Jesus tells us today is difficult to accept. If we are to bear the cross to follow him, be divided from those we love, and lose our lives for him—is it worth it to follow Jesus? For the answer, we must see where Jesus is truly leading us.*

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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** *Jesus Calls Us O’er the Tumult* **| CW 463**

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 have prepared joys beyond understanding for those who love you. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

**FIRST LESSON** *Jeremiah 28:5–9*

*The false prophets proclaimed peace, but Jeremiah proclaimed the truth. God’s prophets preach a divisive message, but true unity must be built upon the truths of law and gospel.*

**5**Then the prophet Jeremiah replied to the prophet Hananiah before the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the Lord. **6**He said, “Amen! May the Lord do so! May the Lord fulfill the words you have prophesied by bringing the articles of the Lord’s house and all the exiles back to this place from Babylon. **7**Nevertheless, listen to what I have to say in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people: **8**From early times the prophets who preceded you and me have prophesied war, disaster and plague against many countries and great kingdoms. **9**But the prophet who prophesies peace will be recognized as one truly sent by the Lord only if his prediction comes true.”

**PSALM** *Psalm 89, page 98*

**SECOND LESSON** *Romans 6:1–11*

*Christians are willing to commit themselves fully to the truth of God’s word because they know that when they follow Jesus to the cross, they will also follow him into glory.*

**6**What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? **2**By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? **3**Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? **4**We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

**5**For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. **6**For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with,[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+6%3A1-11&version=NIV#fen-NIV-28075a)] that we should no longer be slaves to sin— **7**because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

**8**Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. **9**For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. **10**The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

**11**In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

**VERSE OF THE DAY** *Mark 8:34*

**Alleluia. If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. Alleluia.**

**THE GOSPEL** *Matthew 10:34–42*

*As Jesus sends his disciples out to proclaim the gospel, he warns them of the division their ministry will cause.*

**34**“Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. **35**For I have come to turn

“‘a man against his father,
    a daughter against her mother,
a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law—
**36**    a man’s enemies will be the members of his own household.’

**37**“Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. **38**Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. **39**Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.

**40**“Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. **41**Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person’s reward. **42**And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward.”

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus***| CW 452**

**SERMON** *Exodus 19*

**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.*

**INSTALLATION OF CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

M: Lord God, our maker and preserver, we praise and thank you for all that you give us day after day.

**C: We are not worthy of all the mercies you show us.**

M: You have given us your precious Word to nourish our souls and to protect us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature.

**C: We thank you for those who teach and preach your saving truth at this place and everywhere. Grant them a rich measure of patience, wisdom, and love.**

M: Heavenly Father, we pray that you shield us from every kind of danger: sudden catastrophe, terrors of crime, and the pain of disease. Watch over those who travel. Keep our loved ones from whatever perils may threaten them.

**C: Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, calm those who are distressed, and comfort all who are old and infirm.**

M: Bless our land, our people, and those who hold offices of high trust. Keep our government and schools upright and strong for the advancement of good citizenship and useful vocations, that we may enjoy the gifts of peace, security, and well-being.

**C: Grant your blessing to every nation on earth. Where there are wars, may there be peace. Where there is hatred, let it be healed. Where there is poverty, danger, or disaster, come with you almighty power to help and restore.**

M: Hear us as we bring you our private and personal prayers.

*Silent prayer*

M: We bring these requests before you in the name of Jesus our Lord, and ask you to hear us. Take all that we have, our bodies and minds, our time and skills, our ministries and offerings, and use them to your glory.

**C: We give ourselves to you that we may serve you in whatever way is pleasing in your sight. Amen.**

*Silent prayer.*

**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** *Baptized Into Your Name Most Holy* **| CW 294**



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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

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