



**19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

*All Authority has been given to Jesus*

# **CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH** | Lodi, California

*October 11, 2020*

## **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 way of Christ stands firm against all sin. God's chosen, sinful people, frequently complained and accused God, challenging his authority. But God desires that his people would be transformed with a new heart and spirit. His way is one of love, mercy, and comfort.

## OPENING HYMN

471 *Renew Me, O Eternal Light* arranged by Koine



1 Re - new me, O e - ter - nal Light, And let my  
2 De - stroy in me the lust of sin; From all im -  
3 Cre - ate in me a new heart, Lord, That glad - ly  
4 Grant that I on - ly you may love And seek those



heart and soul be bright, Il - lu - mined with the  
pure - ness make me clean. Oh, grant me pow'r and  
I o - bey your Word. Oh, let your will be  
things which are a - bove Till I be - hold you



light of grace That is - sues from your ho - ly face.  
strength, my God, To strive a - gainst my flesh and blood.  
my de - sire And with new life my soul in - spire.  
face to face, O Light e - ter - nal, through your grace.

Text: Johann F. Ruopp, 1672–1708, abr.; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.  
Tune: HERR JESU CHRIST, MEINS (LM) *As hymnodus sacer*, Leipzig, 1625, alt.

## INVOCATION

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 OF SINS

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.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord 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.

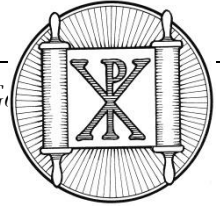
**C: Amen.**

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

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are  
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -  
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -  
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -  
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.  
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

## The Service of the Word

---



*Having just received absolution for their sins, believers now gather around the Word of God for encouragement and peace for their lives on earth.*

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**M:** Let us pray.

Almighty God, you exalted your son to the place of all honor and authority. Though our sins are many and we deserve eternal condemnation you sent your Son who won for us forgiveness of sins and everlasting salvation. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may be ever watchful and live true and godly lives in Your service; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C:** Amen

The **Collect** (also known as the “Prayer of the Day”) is a concise prayer which “collects” the thoughts of the day and presents them to God in his mercy. Many of these prayers have been in use in the church for more than 1,500 years.

### FIRST LESSON

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

*Ezekiel reminds those who think they cannot change because of what their parents were and did, or who think they cannot turn from their wicked ways, that God is just. He is just and he calls sinners to repentance and faith in his gracious forgiveness of sins.*

The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>2</sup>“What do you mean by using this proverb concerning the land of Israel:

‘The fathers eat sour grapes,  
and the children’s teeth are set on edge?’

<sup>3</sup>As I live”—this is the declaration of the Lord GOD—“you will no longer use this proverb in Israel. <sup>4</sup>Look, every life belongs to me. The life of the father is like the life of the son—both belong to me. The person who sins is the one who will die.

<sup>25</sup>“But you say, ‘The Lord’s way isn’t fair.’ Now listen, house of Israel: Is it my way that is unfair? Instead, isn’t it your ways that are unfair? <sup>26</sup>When a righteous person turns from his righteousness and acts unjustly, he will die for this. He will die because of the injustice he has committed. <sup>27</sup>But if a wicked person turns from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he will preserve his life. <sup>28</sup>He will certainly live because he thought it over and turned from all the transgressions he had committed; he will not die. <sup>29</sup>But the house of Israel says, ‘The Lord’s way isn’t fair.’ Is it my ways that are unfair, house of Israel? Instead, isn’t it your ways that are unfair?

<sup>30</sup>“Therefore, house of Israel, I will judge each one of you according to his ways.” This is the declaration of the Lord GOD. “Repent and turn from all your

rebellious acts, so they will not become a sinful stumbling block to you. <sup>31</sup>Throw off all the transgressions you have committed, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. Why should you die, house of Israel? <sup>32</sup>For I take no pleasure in anyone's death." This is the declaration of the Lord GOD. "So repent and live!

**PSALM OF THE DAY**

**Psalm 25**

*Refrain*



To you, O Lord, I lift my soul; in you I trust, my God.

*Psalm tone*



To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;  
in you I trust, O my God.

Remember, O LORD, your great mercy and love,  
for they are from of old.

Remember not the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways;  
according to your love remember me, for you are good, O LORD.

***Refrain***

Turn to me and be gracious to me,  
for I am lonely and afflicted.

Look upon my affliction and my distress.  
and take away all my sins.

Guard my life and rescue me,  
for I take refuge in you.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son**  
**and to the Holy Spirit,**

**as it was in the beginning,**  
**is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

***Refrain***

## SECOND LESSON

Philippians 2:1-18

*A repentant heart follows the attitude of Jesus who gave himself to us in great humility. It humbles, serves, and trusts in God's salvation.*

<sup>2</sup> If, then, there is any encouragement in Christ, if any consolation of love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, <sup>2</sup> make my joy complete by thinking the same way, having the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. <sup>3</sup> Do nothing out of selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility consider others as more important than yourselves. <sup>4</sup> Everyone should look not to his own interests, but rather to the interests of others.

<sup>5</sup> Adopt the same attitude as that of Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup> who, existing in the form of God, did not consider equality with God as something to be exploited.<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>7</sup> Instead he emptied himself by assuming the form of a servant, taking on the likeness of humanity. And when he had come as a man,

<sup>8</sup> he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death— even to death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup> For this reason God highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,

<sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow— in heaven and on earth and under the earth—

<sup>11</sup> and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, my dear friends, just as you have always obeyed, so now, not only in my presence but even more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. <sup>13</sup> For it is God who is working in you both to will and to work according to his good purpose. <sup>14</sup> Do everything without grumbling and arguing, <sup>15</sup> so that you may be blameless and pure, children of God who are faultless in a crooked and perverted generation, among whom you shine like stars in the world, <sup>16</sup> by holding firm to the word of life. Then I can boast in the day of Christ that I didn't run or labor for

nothing. <sup>17</sup> But even if I am poured out as a drink offering on the sacrificial service of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you. <sup>18</sup> In the same way you should also be glad and rejoice with me.

**VERSE OF THE DAY**

Philippians 2:10,11

**Alleluia. At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Alleluia.**

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

**THE GOSPEL**

Matthew 21:23-32

*After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching as he preaches John's baptism of repentance into forgiveness that even "tax collectors and prostitutes go into the kingdom of God."*

<sup>23</sup>When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things? Who gave you this authority?"

<sup>24</sup>Jesus answered them, "I will also ask you one question, and if you answer it for me, then I will tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>Did John's baptism come from heaven, or was it of human origin?"

They discussed it among themselves, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Then why didn't you believe him?' <sup>26</sup>But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we're afraid of the crowd, because everyone considers John to be a prophet." <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, "We don't know."

And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.



<sup>28</sup>“What do you think? A man had two sons. He went to the first and said, ‘My son, go work in the vineyard today.’

<sup>29</sup>“He answered, ‘I don’t want to,’ but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>Then the man went to the other and said the same thing. ‘I will, sir,’ he answered, but he didn’t go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did his father’s will?”

They said, “The first.”

Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you didn’t believe him. Tax collectors and prostitutes did believe him; but you, when you saw it, didn’t even change your minds then and believe him.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

## HYMN OF THE DAY

306 Before You, God the Judge of All



1 Be - fore you, God, the Judge of all, With grief and shame I  
2 O Lord, my God, to you I pray: Oh, cast me not in  
3 O Je - sus, let your pre - cious blood Be to my soul a



hum - bly fall. I see my sins a - gainst you, Lord,  
wrath a - way! Let your good Spir - it ne'er de - part,  
cleans - ing flood. Turn not, O Lord, your guest a - way,



My sins of thought and deed and word. They press me  
But let him draw to you my heart That tru - ly  
But grant that jus - ti - fied I may Go to my



sore; to you I flee: O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!  
pen - i - tent I be: O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!  
house at peace to be: O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!

Text: Magnus B. Landstad, 1802–80; tr. Carl Döving, 1867–1937, alt.

Tune: VATER UNSER IM HIMMELREICH, DER DU (88 88 88) attr. Martin Luther, 1483–1546.

**APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

2 Cor. 6:18  
Is. 51:13

**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.**

1 Cor. 8:6; Jn. 3:18  
Lk. 1:35  
Lk. 1:34; 2:7  
Lk. 23:16  
Mt. 27:32-61; Mk 15:21-47  
Lk. 23:26-56; Jn. 19:16b-42

**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.**

1 Pet. 3:19  
1 Cor. 15:4b  
Ac. 2:33-34  
Heb. 1:13  
Mt. 25:31  
2 Tim. 4:1

**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.**

Mt. 3:16-17  
Eph. 5:23  
Eph. 4:3-6  
Rom. 4:6-8  
1 Cor. 15:13-19  
1 Th. 4:17

*Upon hearing the Word preached, the congregation unites in one voice to speak a summary of the Christian faith just preached. The creeds signify our allegiance to the Christian faith and unite us with over 2,000 years of Christian history. By repeating the creeds weekly, we equip ourselves for public witness by grounding our confession in the fundamentals of our faith.*

*Be seated*

**OFFERING**

*Of all the gifts God gives to us, forgiveness in Jesus Christ is the most precious. No gift we could give back to God for what he did through his Son Jesus Christ could ever balance the debt we owe for what our Lord accomplished for us on the cross. Yet Jesus says the debt we owe has been canceled, that means that we do not give out of obligation but as an act of worship and thanks to God. The offerings of the members of Christ Lutheran are gathered at this time. Guests need not feel obligated to give an offering.*

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

M: O Lord, our God, you are wise and powerful, good and gracious. Your mercies are new every morning. Each day you open your hand and provide for the needs of your children on earth.

**C: We praise you for every grace and blessing.**

M: Strengthen your Church in all the world. Let your comforting message of salvation in Christ Jesus be proclaimed to troubled souls everywhere.

**C: Use our ministries and offerings to extend your healing and your hope.**

M: We bring you our requests for the various structures of our society. Bless our national, state, and local governments.

**C: Grant us civil servants who are worthy of honor and respect.**

M: Grant prosperity to our businesses and industries. Give employers a sense of fairness toward their workers, and employees a feeling of joy and pride in their workmanship.

**C: Help us find satisfaction in all work well done.**

M: Invigorate the schools of our land. Give success to every effort that helps students read, think, and communicate in ways that will promote an informed and responsible citizenry. Arouse curious minds to discover the wonders of your created order.

**C: Give us teachers and students who pursue excellence.**

M: Strengthen the families of our country. Give fathers and mothers a renewed commitment to be good parents. Give children and young people the wisdom to regard their parents as your representatives.

**C: Lead us to love one another as you have loved us.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Gracious Father, we pray boldly as Jesus taught, with the confidence that you will hear and with the faith that you will respond for our welfare.

**C: Amen.**

## **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.

HYMN

337 Delay Not! Delay Not



1 De - lay not! De - lay not! O sin - ner, draw near!  
 2 De - lay not! De - lay not, O sin - ner, to come,  
 3 De - lay not! De - lay not! The Spir - it of grace,  
 4 De - lay not! De - lay not! The hour is at hand;  
 5 De - lay not! De - lay not! Why long - er a - buse



The wa - ters of life are now flow - ing for you.  
 For mer - cy still lin - gers and calls you to - day.  
 Long grieved and re - sist - ed, may take his sad flight  
 The earth will dis - solve, and the heav - ens will fade.  
 The love and com - pas - sion of Je - sus, your God?



No price is de - mand - ed; the Sav - ior is here.  
 Its voice is not heard in the vale of the tomb;  
 And leave you in dark - ness to fin - ish your race,  
 The dead, small and great, in the Judg - ment must stand—  
 A foun - tain is o - pened—how can you re - fuse?



Re - demp - tion is pur - chased; God's prom - ise is true.  
 Its mes - sage, un - heed - ed, will soon pass a - way.  
 To sink in the gloom of e - ter - ni - ty's night.  
 What pow'r, then, O sin - ner, can lend you its aid?  
 Come, wash and be cleansed in his par - don - ing blood.

## PRAYER

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, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## THE BLESSING

*Numbers 6:22-27*

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.

*The  **blessing** of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for 3,500 years. The Lord said, "So I will put my name on them, and I will bless them."*



C: **A - men. A - men. A - men.**

*Be seated*

## CLOSING HYMN

*456 Forth in Your Name, O Lord, I Go*

456

Forth in Your Name, O Lord, I Go



1 Forth in your name, O Lord, I go, My dai - ly  
 2 Oh, let me cheer - ful - ly ful - fill The task your  
 3 May I find you at my right hand; Your eyes see  
 4 Give me to bear your eas - y yoke And ev - 'ry  
 5 For you I joy - ous - ly em - ploy What - ev - er



la - bor to pur - sue, De - ter - mined on - ly  
 wis - dom has as - signed And do your good and  
 tru - ly what I do. I la - bor on at  
 mo - ment watch and pray And still to things e -  
 you in grace have giv'n; I run my dai - ly



you to know In all I think or speak or do.  
 per - fect will— In all my works your pres - ence find!  
 your com - mand And of - fer all my works to you.  
 ter - nal look And has - ten to your glo - rious day.  
 course with joy And close - ly walk with you to heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, abr., alt.

Tune: LAKEWOOD (LM) Barry L. Bobb, b. 1951. © 1981 Barry L. Bobb. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

**COPYRIGHT INFORMATION**

*Content requiring a copyright license is reproduced under OneLicense.net #A-718312. All rights reserved.*

*The Common Service: Texts revised from The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941. Music revised by James Engel.*

*Scripture Quotations: From the Holy Bible, New International Version (NIV 1984), © 1973, 1978, 1984 by Biblica, Inc.*