



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

*The Word is Powerful*

# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH | Lodi, California

*September 12, 2021*

## 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

Words, shaped by the holy decrees of God, rightfully teach, admonish, and bless. When instruction is thoroughly informed by the Word of God, people turn from darkness and walk in the light. Jesus, the Word incarnate, was confessed to be the True Teacher, able to cast out demons. In response to unwavering faith, Christ has compassion and rebukes an unclean spirit. Our tongues let loose cursing and pain; Christ's word unleash truth and healing.

## OPENING HYMN

*Now that Daylight Fills the Sky* | **CW 583**

## 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.**

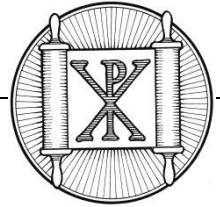
M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

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 to find encouragement and peace for their lives on earth.*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**M:** Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, our support and defense in every need, continue to preserve your church in safety, govern her by your good ness, and bless her with your peace; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**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

Isaiah 50:4-10

*Isaiah records the words of Jesus before his birth telling of his suffering and victory. Jesus does not strike back but trusts in God's steadfast love.*

<sup>4</sup>The Lord GOD has given me  
the tongue of those who are instructed  
to know how to sustain the weary with a word.  
He awakens me each morning;  
he awakens my ear to listen like those being instructed.

<sup>5</sup>The Lord GOD has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious;  
I did not turn back.

<sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who beat me,  
and my cheeks to those who tore out my beard.  
I did not hide my face from scorn and spitting.

<sup>7</sup>The Lord GOD will help me;  
therefore I have not been humiliated;  
therefore I have set my face like flint,  
and I know I will not be put to shame.

<sup>8</sup>The one who vindicates me is near;  
who will contend with me?  
Let us confront each other.<sup>[a]</sup>

Who has a case against me?<sup>1a</sup>

Let him come near me!

<sup>9</sup>In truth, the Lord GOD will help me;

who will condemn me?

Indeed, all of them will wear out like a garment;

a moth will devour them.

<sup>10</sup>Who among you fears the LORD

and listens to his servant?

Who among you walks in darkness,

and has no light?

Let him trust in the name of the LORD;

let him lean on his God.

## PSALM OF THE DAY

*Psalm 116* | **CW page 107**

## SECOND LESSON

James 3:1-12

*James uses multiple metaphors to describe how damaging words spoken can be. Not only are we to control our speech, but what we say and how we say it are to reflect our faith.*

**3** Not many should become teachers, my brothers,<sup>1a</sup> because you know that we will receive a stricter judgment. **2** For we all stumble in many ways. If anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is mature, able also to control the whole body. **3** Now if we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we direct their whole bodies. **4** And consider ships: Though very large and driven by fierce winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. **5** So too, though the tongue is a small part of the body, it boasts great things. Consider how a small fire sets ablaze a large forest. **6** And the tongue is a fire. The tongue, a world of unrighteousness, is placed<sup>1a</sup> among our members. It stains the whole body, sets the course of life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell. **7** Every kind of animal, bird, reptile, and fish is tamed and has been tamed by humankind, **8** but no one can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. **9** With the tongue we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in God's likeness. **10** Blessing and cursing come out of the same mouth. My brothers and sisters, these things should not be this way. **11** Does a spring pour out sweet and bitter water from the same opening? **12** Can a fig tree produce olives, my brothers and sisters, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a saltwater spring yield fresh water.

## VERSE OF THE DAY

Romans 15:4

Alleluia. Everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

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

Mark 9:14-29

*Jesus demonstrates his power over demonic forces. He casts out a demon and overcomes unbelief with the Word.*

<sup>14</sup>When they came to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd around them and the teachers of the law arguing with them. <sup>15</sup>As soon as all the people saw Jesus, they were overwhelmed with wonder and ran to greet him.

<sup>16</sup>“What are you arguing with them about?” he asked.

<sup>17</sup>A man in the crowd answered, “Teacher, I brought you my son, who is possessed by a spirit that has robbed him of speech. <sup>18</sup>Whenever it seizes him, it throws him to the ground. He foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive out the spirit, but they could not.”

<sup>19</sup>“You unbelieving generation,” Jesus replied, “how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy to me.”

<sup>20</sup>So they brought him. When the spirit saw Jesus, it immediately threw the boy into a convulsion. He fell to the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth.

<sup>21</sup>Jesus asked the boy’s father, “How long has he been like this?”

“From childhood,” he answered. <sup>22</sup>“It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him. But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us.”

<sup>23</sup> “If you can?” said Jesus. “Everything is possible for one who believes.”

<sup>24</sup> Immediately the boy’s father exclaimed, “I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!”

<sup>25</sup> When Jesus saw that a crowd was running to the scene, he rebuked the impure spirit. “You deaf and mute spirit,” he said, “I command you, come out of him and never enter him again.”

<sup>26</sup> The spirit shrieked, convulsed him violently and came out. The boy looked so much like a corpse that many said, “He’s dead.” <sup>27</sup> But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him to his feet, and he stood up.

<sup>28</sup> After Jesus had gone indoors, his disciples asked him privately, “Why couldn’t we drive it out?”

<sup>29</sup> He replied, “This kind can come out only by prayer.”

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Come, Follow Me the Savior Spoke* | CW 453

## SERMON

James 3:1-12

## 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

1 Pet. 3:19

1 Cor. 15:4b

Ac. 2:33-34

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.

Heb. 1:13

Mt. 25:31

2 Tim. 4:1

From there he will come to judge

the living and the dead.

Mt. 3:16-17

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

*Upon hearing the Word preached, the congregation unites in one voice to speak a summary of the Christian faith that **all Christians profess.** 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.*

**the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

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

## **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**

*Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing* | **CW 340**

### **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

*Take My Life and Let It Be* | CW 469



13009 N. Elderberry Ct.

Lodi, CA 95242

[www.christlodi.org](http://www.christlodi.org)

209-368-6250

Pastor Joshua Hanson

## 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

*“Now you are the body of Christ,  
and each one of you is a part of it.”  
(1 Corinthians 12:27)*

## **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.*