



12th Sunday after Pentecost

The Living Bread gives his flesh for life

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH | Lodi, California

August 15, 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

Wisdom prepares a feast, sets her table, and invites all to come and eat her bread and drink her wine. The first chapter of John's gospel owes much to the biblical tradition that imagined Wisdom as existing before anything was created and having a role in the work of creation. Christ, the wisdom of God (1 Cor. 1:24), today invites us to eat his flesh and drink his blood. John's gospel includes no account of the institution of the Lord's supper, but here we can't help hearing Jesus' words as an invitation to the meal of bread and wine we share.

The Service of the Word and Sacrament

The high and holy worship of God is faith in Jesus Christ. Such faith is created and sustained by God's service to us (the German, "Gottesdienst," "God/Divine Service). In the Divine Service, the Lord comes to us in His Word and Sacrament to bless and enliven us with His gifts. The Service is not something we do for God, but His service to us received in faith. The liturgy is God's work. He gives, we receive.



HYMN

In You Is Gladness | CW 346

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

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

ABSOLUTION

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son  and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

LORD, HAVE MERCY - *Kyrie*

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts
with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

From God's Word we know that wherever God puts His name, there He is to bless. In the Old Testament the temple was the place where God graciously caused His name to be present (1 Kings 8:27-30).

God has put His name—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—on us in Holy Baptism. The Divine Service begins with the Invocation, the words spoken over us at our baptisms. Every Divine Service is for the hallowing of the Lord’s name, which the Small Catechism reminds us is done “when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it” (Matthew 28:18-20).



C: Christ, have mer - cy.

M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



C: A - men.

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

O LORD, OUR LORD



C: O Lord, our Lord, how glo - rious is your name in





all the earth. Al - might - y God, mer - ci - ful Fa - ther,



you crown our life with your love. You take a - way our sin;


you com - fort our spir - it; you make us pure and



ho - ly in your sight. You did not spare your on - ly Son,


but gave him up for us all. O Lord, our Lord,


how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.


O Son of God, e - ter - nal Word of the Fa - ther,

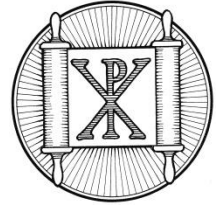

you came to live with us; you made your Fa - ther known;


you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the


King of glo - ry; you are the Lord! O Lord, our Lord,


how glo - rious is your name in all the earth.

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.

Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know your son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

FIRST LESSON

Proverbs 9:1-6

Wisdom is portrayed as a woman who invites people to partake of her banquet. Just as ordinary food is necessary for physical life, Wisdom's food—insight and understanding—is necessary for fullness of life with God. Partaking of Wisdom's banquet is the way to life.

¹ Wisdom has built her house;
she has carved out her seven pillars.
² She has prepared her meat; she has mixed her wine;
she has also set her table.
³ She has sent out her female servants;
she calls out from the highest points of the city:
⁴ "Whoever is inexperienced, enter here!"
To the one who lacks sense, she says,
⁵ "Come, eat my bread,
and drink the wine I have mixed.
⁶ Leave inexperience behind, and you will live;
pursue the way of understanding.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 1 | *CW page 64*

SECOND LESSON

Ephesians 5:6-21

True wisdom enters our life in Christ. Because we are filled with the Spirit, Christians regularly rejoice together, give thanks to God for one another, and care for one another.

⁶ Let no one deceive you with empty arguments, for God's wrath is coming on the disobedient^[a] because of these things. ⁷ Therefore, do not become their partners. ⁸ For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light—
⁹ for the fruit of the light^[b] consists of all goodness, righteousness, and truth—

¹⁰ testing what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Don't participate in the fruitless works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to mention what is done by them in secret. ¹³ Everything exposed by the light is made visible, ¹⁴ for what makes everything visible is light. Therefore it is said:

Get up, sleeper, and rise up from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.

¹⁵ Pay careful attention, then, to how you walk—not as unwise people but as wise—
¹⁶ making the most of the time,^[s] because the days are evil. ¹⁷ So don't be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. ¹⁸ And don't get drunk with wine, which leads to reckless living, but be filled by the Spirit: ¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing and making music with your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ giving thanks always for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ submitting to one another in the fear of Christ.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Hebrews 4:12

**Alleluia. The Word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword,
discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. 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

John 6:51-69

The “hard saying” that offends Jesus’ disciples is his claim that his followers must eat his flesh and drink his blood. They understand and want a different Jesus. Peter on the other hand knows there is no other bread from heaven.

⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread he will live forever. The bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

⁵² At that, the Jews argued among themselves, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?”

⁵³ So Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life in yourselves. ⁵⁴ The one who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day, ⁵⁵ because my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶ The one who eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him. ⁵⁷ Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. ⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down from heaven; it is not like the manna^[a] your ancestors ate—and they died. The one who eats this bread will live forever.”

⁵⁹ He said these things while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.

⁶⁰ Therefore, when many of his disciples heard this, they said, “This teaching is hard. Who can accept^[b] it?”

⁶¹ Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, asked them, “Does this offend you? ⁶² Then what if you were to observe the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³ The Spirit is the one who gives life. The flesh doesn’t help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life. ⁶⁴ But there are some among you who don’t believe.” (For Jesus knew from the beginning those who did not^[c] believe and the one who would betray him.) ⁶⁵ He said, “This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted to him by the Father.”

⁶⁶ From that moment^[d] many of his disciples turned back and no longer accompanied him. ⁶⁷ So Jesus said to the Twelve, “You don’t want to go away too, do you?”

⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered, “Lord, to whom will we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹ We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”^[e]

M This is the Gospel of the Lord.



HYMN OF THE DAY
SERMON

O God, My Faithful God | *CW* 459
John 6:51-69

Having heard the Word of God, we confess our faith in His name. The creed is our saying back to God what He has first said to us. In the Creed we acclaim the truth of the triune God and His work of salvation accomplished for us in His incarnate Son, Jesus Christ.

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,	<i>Dt. 6:4</i>	<i>The Nicene Creed is the great Confession of the Christian faith professed by all Christians. The Creed originated at the First Council of Nicaea (c. AD. 325). The Creed itself was crafted as a confession of Scripture in opposition to the Arian heresy, which denied that the Lord Jesus and the Holy Spirit are God.</i>
the Father, the Almighty,	<i>2 Cor. 6:18</i>	
maker of heaven and earth,	<i>Is. 51:13</i>	
of all that is, seen and unseen.	<i>Col. 1:16</i>	
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,	<i>1 Cor 8:6</i>	
the only Son of God,	<i>Jn. 3:16</i>	
eternally begotten of the Father,	<i>Heb. 1:2,5</i>	
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,	<i>Jn. 1</i>	
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.	<i>Jn. 10:30</i>	
Through him all things were made.	<i>Jn. 1:3</i>	
For us and for our salvation,	<i>1 Th. 5:9</i>	<i>The Creed itself was crafted as a confession of Scripture in opposition to the Arian heresy, which denied that the Lord Jesus and the Holy Spirit are God.</i>
he came down from heaven,	<i>Jn. 6:38</i>	
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,	<i>Lk. 1:35</i>	
and became fully human.	<i>Gal. 4:4</i>	
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.	<i>Mk. 15:15</i>	
He suffered death and was buried.	<i>1 Cor. 15:3-4a</i>	
On the third day he rose again in accordance		
with the Scriptures.	<i>1 Cor. 15:4b</i>	
He ascended into heaven	<i>Ac. 2:33-34</i>	
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.	<i>Heb. 1:13</i>	
He will come again in glory	<i>Mt. 25:31</i>	<i>The Creed itself was crafted as a confession of Scripture in opposition to the Arian heresy, which denied that the Lord Jesus and the Holy Spirit are God.</i>
to judge the living and the dead,	<i>2 Tim. 4:1</i>	
and his kingdom will have no end.	<i>Lk. 1:33</i>	
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,	<i>Job 33:4</i>	
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,	<i>Jn. 15:26</i>	
who in unity with the Father and the Son	<i>Jn. 4:24</i>	
is worshiped and glorified,		
who has spoken through the prophets.	<i>2 Pet. 1:25</i>	
We believe in one holy Christian	<i>Mt. 16:18; Eph. 2:19-20</i>	
and apostolic Church.		
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.	<i>Eph. 4:5; Ac. 2:38</i>	<i>The Creed itself was crafted as a confession of Scripture in opposition to the Arian heresy, which denied that the Lord Jesus and the Holy Spirit are God.</i>
We look for the resurrection of the dead	<i>1 Cor. 15:21-22</i>	
and the life of the world to come. Amen.	<i>Rev. 22</i>	

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: Gracious God and Father, we praise you for the countless blessings, which we receive from your hand: the beauties of creation and the bounties of the earth, the joy of life and the pleasure of friendship, the good of work and the gift of rest, the privilege to share happiness and sorrow with one another. Above all we praise and thank you for your saving Word and for your Son's body and blood, which you give us to eat and to drink in the sacrament. Through these means of grace, you send the Holy Spirit into our hearts and unite us to Jesus and to the whole Christian Church on earth.

C: Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.

M: Great God and Lord, without your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage, and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of your grace, and move us to use the gifts that you give us to share your Word of salvation with all people. Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that you have established for the benefit of society. Remember in mercy those who are sick and suffering, and bring your healing to troubled homes and lives.

C: Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.

M: God our Father, we give thanks to you for all fathers in the world. We pray for them so that they may find courage to persevere and balance work, family, and faith. Give them wisdom, strength, and patience. Help them as they govern and protect their family. Guide them to realize that strength and wisdom do not come from within but are gifts from your gracious hand. We remember fathers, grandfathers, and those who are no longer with us. We give thanks to you for providing us with men who lead and care for us.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

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

Silent prayer.

M: Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4

**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.**

The Service of the Sacrament

This greeting marks a new service, so to speak. These ancient introductory words & phrases help to highlight, celebrate and bring attention to the Sacrament.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

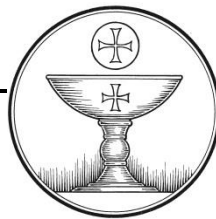
M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. *He raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms and placed all things under his feet for the benefit of the Church.* Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and



honor and glory for ever and ever:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY – *Sanctus*

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.

The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

You are my God, and I will ex - alt you.

I will give you thanks, for you have be - come my sal -

va - tion. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Lord of hosts.

The whole earth is full of your glo - ry.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Matthew 26, Mark 14, Luke 22

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my ☩ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my ☩ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this,

The Words of institution both proclaim the words of Jesus to the congregation and sets apart the bread and wine for the Lord's Supper.

whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

PEACE OF THE LORD – *Pax Domini*

John 20:19

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD – *Agnus Dei*

John 1:29

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us your peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION

Those who will be receiving Holy Communion today may wish to read **Personal Preparation for Holy Communion**, found on page 156 in the front section of the hymnal. This page helps us put into practice what the Bible encourages: “*Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup.*” (1 Corinthians 11:28)

*Christ Lutheran Church confesses and practices the Biblical teaching of a **Closed Communion**. We ask that only members of the Wisconsin Synod [WELS] or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod [ELS] join us at the Lord's Table. If you have questions concerning our communion practice, or would like to inquire about how you, too, can commune with us, please speak with the Pastor following the service.*

THANK THE LORD



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia!

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE BLESSING

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

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

What Is This Bread | CWS 742



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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

He builds us up for service

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

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

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