



2610 Campbell Street Valparaiso, Indiana 46385 (219) 462-6660 • clcvalpo.org



June 1, 2025

# We welcome you to Christ Lutheran Church! We are a community of people sharing God's love through Christ and growing together in faith.

We celebrate all the ways we are made in the image of God, seeking to see God in everyone. We honor and respect each person's age, ethnicity, family composition, gender identity, gender expression, life history, mental well-being, physical ability, relationship status, sexual orientation, skin color, and socioeconomic standing. Together, we strive to love and serve our neighbor and all creation, including working toward racial and social justice. We would love to walk with you on this creative adventure\* of faith, grace, and love.

\* The first sermon ever preached at Christ Lutheran was titled "A Call to Creative Adventure."

#### ABOUT WORSHP

We gather to worship weekly to hear and remember our shared hope: the life, death, and resurrection of Christ makes all things new, even us.

You will find everything that happens in worship printed in this bulletin, with hymns found in the red hymnals ("ELW") in the seats in front of you.

If you have a prayer request, note it on a yellow card from the seatback holder and pass it to an usher; the other side is for any information you would like about Christ Lutheran. Please feel welcome to remain seated as necessary during the service.

#### **CHILDREN ARE ALWAYS WELCOME IN CHURCH!**

God's people come in all shapes and sizes – it is a gift to the whole community when the smallest of us are present! Sitting with parents and learning to treasure times of worship is the foundation for helping build a growing faith in a child's life. There's some noise and movement that we expect from little ones - feel free to make use of the **activity bags, doodle pads, bookshelf in the overflow area and cry room at the back of the sanctuary** as needed. Whatever sacrifice of energy and effort you make to include your children in worship is multiplied as the good news of God's love takes root in their lives!

#### WHEN NURSERY CARE IS NEEDED DURING WORSHIP

A fully equipped and staffed Nursery is available for both infants and toddlers during all services. The Nursery is located west of our gathering area in **Room 110**.

#### **RESTROOMS**

Men's and women's restrooms off the Gathering Area and Church Hall have changing tables, as does the allgender restroom near the nursery. A second all-gender restroom is through the Vestry off the East hallway, past the Welcome Center.

#### HOLY COMMUNION

**Holy Communion** is the family meal of God's people, to which we come at Jesus' invitation. The body and blood of Christ, in the bread and wine, are his real presence with us and offer the gift of forgiveness because of his death and resurrection. Drawn together and strengthened by this meal, we are given a taste of the fullness of God's coming kingdom, and are equipped to be the hands and feet of God's love in the world. All baptized Christians are always welcome at the Lord's table.

Our services are on video, and occasional photographs are taken for our website and e-mail news. If you have concerns, please speak to a church staff member.

Hearing assistance devices are available to those who need help with listening to the service and are located at the entrance to the sanctuary, or please see an Usher for assistance.

A Reminder: Please turn off all cell phones during worship services.

It is possible to hear in Jesus' high priestly prayer, a prayer he offered shortly before his death, the petitions of the ascended Christ for his own throughout history—to our day—and beyond. Jesus prays for us. In holy baptism we become believers in God, have our robes washed in the flood of Christ's forgiveness, and receive the gift of life forever with all the saints.

## **GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

PRELUDE

Prelude in G major (BWV 541) J.S. Bach

## WELCOME

If you are joining us for the first time, welcome! We'd love to meet you, or if there's anything you'd like to know about the ministry of Christ Lutheran Church, please consider <u>filling out a Connection Card online</u> (you can point your phone at the graphic to the right) or using a yellow Connection Card in the pew holders.



**Prayer requests** can be posted to the livechat or use a yellow Prayer Request (on the backside of the Connection Card) and give them to an usher.

If you are worshipping with us via livestream, consider **preparing your space for Communion**: light a candle (if appropriate and safe), and have a plate with bread/ cracker/tortilla and a cup for wine or grape juice (or an empty cup as a sign Jesus is sufficient in one or both elements).

## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins. Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of + the One who was, who is, and who is to come. **Amen.** 

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism. Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.** 

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.** 

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.** 

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. **Amen.** 



## GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.** 

Children: This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

A brief silence is kept before the prayer. God unheld by word or wall; power of love beyond all lords of war: lift us from dullness and cynical contempt; make us ready for your Spirit of transforming fire; and turn our hearts to the mending of the world; through Jesus Christ, the name above all names. **Amen.** 

#### **WORD**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

## **CHILDREN'S TIME**

The assembly is seated as children come forward for a time together.

#### READING: Acts 16:16-34

Those who had enslaved a girl and used her powers to tell fortunes threw Paul and Silas into jail for ordering the spirit to come out of her and consequently ruining their business. In prison, Paul and Silas bring the good news of the gospel to the jailer and his family.

<sup>16</sup> One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. <sup>17</sup> While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." <sup>18</sup> She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

<sup>19</sup> But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. <sup>20</sup> When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews <sup>21</sup> and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." <sup>22</sup> The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. <sup>23</sup> After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. <sup>24</sup> Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

<sup>25</sup> About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. <sup>26</sup> Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. <sup>27</sup> When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. <sup>28</sup> But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." <sup>29</sup> The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup> Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" <sup>31</sup> They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." <sup>32</sup> They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. <sup>33</sup> At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. <sup>34</sup> He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** 

## PSALM 97

The congregation is invited to sing the psalm refrain when indicated (R). Verses will be chanted alternately by the leader and the people.

## Refrain



## **Psalm Tone**



The LORD reigns; let the | earth rejoice; let the multitude of the isles be glad. <sup>2</sup>Clouds and darkness sur-<sup>1</sup> round the LORD, righteousness and justice are the foundations | of God's throne. <sup>3</sup>Fire goes be-<sup>1</sup> fore the LORD, burning up enemies on every side. <sup>4</sup>Lightnings light | up the world; the earth sees and trembles. <sup>5</sup>The mountains <sup>|</sup> melt like wax before the LORD of | all the earth. <sup>6</sup>The heavens declare your righteous-<sup>1</sup> ness, O LORD, and all the peoples | see your glory. R <sup>7</sup>Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight in false gods! Bow down before the LORD, | all you gods. <sup>8</sup>Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Ju-<sup>1</sup> dah rejoice, because of your judg- ments, O LORD. <sup>9</sup>For vou are the LORD, most high over | all the earth; you are exalted far a- bove all gods. <sup>10</sup>You who love the | LORD, hate evil! God guards the lives of the saints and rescues them from the hand of the wicked. <sup>11</sup>Light dawns | for the righteous, and joy for the hon- est of heart. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous, and give thanks to God's holy name. R

## READING: Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

The ascended Christ, hidden from our sight, promises to come again. We eagerly pray, "Come, Lord Jesus," with all who respond to this invitation.

<sup>12</sup> "See, I am coming soon; my reward is with me, to repay according to everyone's work. <sup>13</sup> I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

<sup>14</sup> Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates.

<sup>16</sup> "It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

<sup>17</sup> The Spirit and the bride say, "Come."

And let everyone who hears say, "Come."

And let everyone who is thirsty come.

Let anyone who wishes take the water of life as a gift.

<sup>20</sup> The one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

<sup>21</sup> The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** 

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

The assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.



## **GOSPEL: Luke 24: 44-53**

The holy gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>44</sup>Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you — that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." <sup>50</sup>Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. <sup>51</sup>While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. <sup>52</sup>And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; <sup>53</sup>and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** 

#### **SERMON**

The assembly is seated. Time for reflection follows the sermon.

#### HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #826 Thine the Amen

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.



Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926 Music: THINE, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929 Text and music © 1983 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

#### NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God. begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven. was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## PRAYERS

Our pravers draw on the Ecumencial Praver Cycle and the Church's calendar of *Commemorations—further information is found each week at the end of the bulletin.* 

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Welcoming God, you invite all people to come and encounter your love. Give your church open hearts and minds to embrace all who seek your presence. Increase the capacity for cooperation between denominations and congregations. Hear us, O God.

## Your mercy is great.

Creating God, your might is seen in storms and in silence. Where drought threatens, bring rain. Where waters flood, ease them back. Where fire, earthquake, hurricane, or tornado destroy, shelter your people and restore your land. Hear us, O God.

## Your mercy is great.

Discerning God, fill the hearts of leaders with your passion for justice and mercy. Call the nations of this world to tables of peace and collaboration. Encourage governments to seek avenues of collective benefit and joy. Continue to accompany the people and churches of Angola and Mozambique as they build peace and tend to the needs of all. Hear us. O God.

## Your mercy is great.

Abiding God, all people are held in your care. Accompany survivors of abuse, trauma, and exploitation. Strengthen our resolve to listen and advocate on behalf of all who are unnoticed. Hear our prayers for those close to our heart. Hear us, O God.

## Your mercy is great.

Rejoicing God, be with this congregation as summer begins in the northern hemisphere. Keep travelers safe. Keep the vulnerable cool. Invigorate summer ministry efforts in our community, and support the well-being of children and young people. Hear us, O God.

## Your mercy is great.

## Here other intercessions may be offered.

Loving God, the beginning and the end, you are with us throughout our lives. In gratitude for the saints who have died, especially Justin, John XXIII, Boniface, Seattle, and the Martyrs of Uganda, we look toward your coming again among us. Hear us, O God.

## Your mercy is great.

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

## Amen.

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

We invite those worshiping by livestream to share a sign of peace in the chat, and for those in person we turn to offer them our greeting of peace before sharing a sign of peace with one another: **Peace be with you!** 

#### **MEAL**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

## **OFFERING**

This congregation serves our neighbors, community, and the world through the participation and support of its members and guests.

If you wish to give electronically, use the QR code, browse to our secure on-line portal at <u>clcvalpo.org/give</u> or use <u>our CLC app</u> (download at clcvalpo.org/app).

## **OFFERTORY ANTHEM (8:00 am):**

Come & Sing Forth Your Joyful Praises

OFFERTORY (10:30 am):

Allegro

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

The assembly stands as the gifts are brought forward.

Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.



Vivaldi/Hopson

Carvalho

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**



The pastor continues the prayer then all join in singing:

#### **SANCTUS**

(An ancient practice invites us to make the sign of the cross in honor of Jesus at the words "Blessed is he.")



## TABLE PRAYER

#### LORD'S PRAYER

Children: The Spirit makes us one. We pray as Jesus taught us: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life. **Thanks be to God!** 

#### DISTRIBUTION

The assembly is seated. The pastor invites those worshipping via livestream to commune:

The body of Christ, given for you. Amen (receive the bread)

The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen *(receive the cup)* 

**In-person distribution:** When indicated by the ushers, come up the right-hand ramp to approach the altar rail. When finished you may leave individually without being dismissed. **WINE** is lighter-colored and **GRAPE JUICE** is dark; wine is received either by Common Cup or from individual cups in the trays. **USED GLASSES** are placed in the basket located near the ramp. **GLUTEN-FREE BREAD IS AVAILABLE**, please indicate to the server that you require this.

## LAMB OF GOD



#### **COMMUNION MUSIC**

#### Allegro from the Concerto in G minor for Two Cellos

Vivaldi

## ELW #496 One Bread, One Body



Text: John Foley, sJ, b. 1939 Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, sJ Text and music © 1978 John B. Foley, SJ and OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.



*After all have returned to their places, the assembly stands as the minister continues.* The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.** 

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. **Amen.** 

## **SENDING**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

#### **INVITATIONS**

The assembly is seated as brief invitations are shared, especially those related to the assembly's participation in God's mission in the world.

#### BLESSING

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN ELW #550

**On What Has Now Been Sown** 



Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt. Music: DARWALL'S 148TH, John Darwall, 1731–1789

Children join the pastors to send us in mission.

#### **DISMISSAL** *Children: Go in peace. You are made new. Alleluia!* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

#### POSTLUDE

Darwall's 148<sup>th</sup>

Niedmann

As worship concludes we move to the Gathering Place, where we are invited to greet one another and share in fellowship.

	Worship Leaders	
	<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
Acolyte		
Lector	Don MacMillan	Jeri Simms
Prayer Assistant	Lanie Steinwart	Becky Fry
Communion Assistants	Bob Luckett Betty Luckett	Jacquie Chevalier Holly Knauff
Ushers	Vickie Copeland Gregg Copeland	
Sound/Light	Zach Wehner	Tony Reinhold
Video/Livestream		
Pastors	Rev. Timothy Knauff, Jr. Rev. Erica Gibson-Even	
Director of Music Ministries	Brian Bartusch	
	Sanctuary Choir	
	Lena Gibson-Even, cello Daniel Gibson-Even, cello Christa Even, accompanist	
Cantor	Kathy Stefans	
Communion Baker	Angela Wehner	
Communion Table	Terry Albrecht Helen Arvidson Barb Clements Marilyn McGawn Lori Schwartz	

# Ecumenical Prayer Cycle

This week we pray for the churches and people of Angola, Mozambique.

## We are thankful for:

- the rich natural resources in these countries, which God intends for the good of all
- the positive developments experienced since years of civil war
- village committees that seek to protect livelihoods and food security of the poor
- how the Lutheran World Federation and partners have pursued land rights in Mozambique.

# We pray for:

- better sanitation, health services, and protection of the environment in these lands
- a healing of the lingering scars and memories from colonization and civil wars
- protection of the land rights of the people
- governments that are transparent and further the good of all the people, rather than being captive to foreign and business interests.

## COMMEMORATIONS Week of June 1

## June 1

# Justin, martyr at Rome, died around 165

Born of pagan parents, Justin was influenced by an elderly Christian in Ephesus. He became a teacher of philosophy and the Christian faith. Jailed for practicing an unauthorized religion, he refused to renounce his faith and was beheaded.

# June 3

# John XXIII, Bishop of Rome, died 1963

When elected pope, the former Angelo Roncalli was expected to be a short-term caretaker. He showed great spirit, though, and convened the Second Vatican Council which helped bring great changes to Roman Catholic and other churches.

# The Martyrs of Uganda, died 1886

On June 3, 1886, thirty-two young men were burned to death for refusing to renounce Christianity. The confident manner in which these Christians went to their deaths contributed to a much stronger Christian presence in Uganda.

# June 5

# Boniface, Bishop of Mainz, missionary to Germany, martyr, died 754

Boniface was a native of England who became a Benedictine monk and was called to missionary work among the Vandal tribes of Germany. With fellow workers, he established churches and schools, and he also worked to reform the church.

## June 7

# Seattle, chief of the Duwamish Confederacy, died 1866

Noah Seattle led a coalition of tribes, and convinced them to live peacefully with encroaching white settlers. When he became a Roman Catholic, he held morning and evening prayer with his tribe. The city of Seattle is named for him.

## To Know God

After her very first day of Sunday school, a little girl went up to her father, looked him directly in the eyes, and said, "I love you, Daddy, because God loved me first." She then declared boldly, "First Jesus, four nineteen!" It took only a few seconds for her father to realize that her Sunday school lesson for the day was based on 1 John 4:19, which says, "We love because he first loved us." Amazing, that already on her first day of Sunday school this child of God had learned that love comes first from Jesus and then is to be shared.

Once we understand the principle that we love because God loves us first, it is not difficult to reach other related conclusions. We forgive because God has already forgiven us. We bless because God has already blessed us. We walk with others because God walks with us. These are bold statements of union with God.

Jesus, in today's gospel reading, is not afraid to say that he and God are one. And more than this, God's intent is that each of us is to be one with God as well. To know God is to know love. To know God *is* to know forgiveness. To know God *is* to know blessing.

What happens when we approach the altar on Sunday and receive the sacrament? When we receive the bread and wine, we take in Jesus. In taking in Jesus, we become everything that Jesus is. This is truly, albeit mysteriously, an embodied reality of union with God. What a gift!

It has always been God's desire to be reconciled with us—for us to be in a relationship of peace and wholeness through Jesus and to live the life of the Spirit by clearly sharing with others everything we have come to know about the One who created us. In sharing love with others, we then live a life that says "thank you" to God.

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