

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church  
October 1, 2023  
18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost



**ALL ARE WELCOME HERE!**

**Gospel in Action: Caring for all God's children, we shall serve  
God through worship, learning, and sharing.**

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church  
32747 Lake Road  
Avon Lake, Ohio 44012  
440-933-6263

celc.mainoffice@gmail.com      www.christlutheranavonlake.org

Interim Pastor: Rev. Laura Kuntz

Office Administrator: Heather Nordman

Organist: Randi Smarsh      Custodians: Bill Higgins and Beth Lecorchick



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

*The congregation is invited to stand.*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be God, the one who forms us, † Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Steadfast and faithful God,

**C: You have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

P: Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.

In † Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

**C: Amen.**

### GATHERING HYMN

#### All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

634

1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;  
2 O seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race now ran - somed from the fall,  
3 Hail him, you heirs of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did call—  
4 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get the worm-wood and the gall,

bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.  
 hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.  
 the God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.  
 go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.

Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.  
 Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.  
 The God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.  
 Go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.

5 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe  
 on this terrestrial ball  
 to him all majesty ascribe  
 and crown him Lord of all.

6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng  
 we at his feet may fall!  
 We'll join the everlasting song  
 and crown him Lord of all.

Text: Edward Perronet, 1726–1792, sts. 1–4; J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, sts. 5–6  
 Music: Oliver Holden, 1765–1844

CORONATION  
 86 86 86

## GREETING

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

**C:** And also with you.

# KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



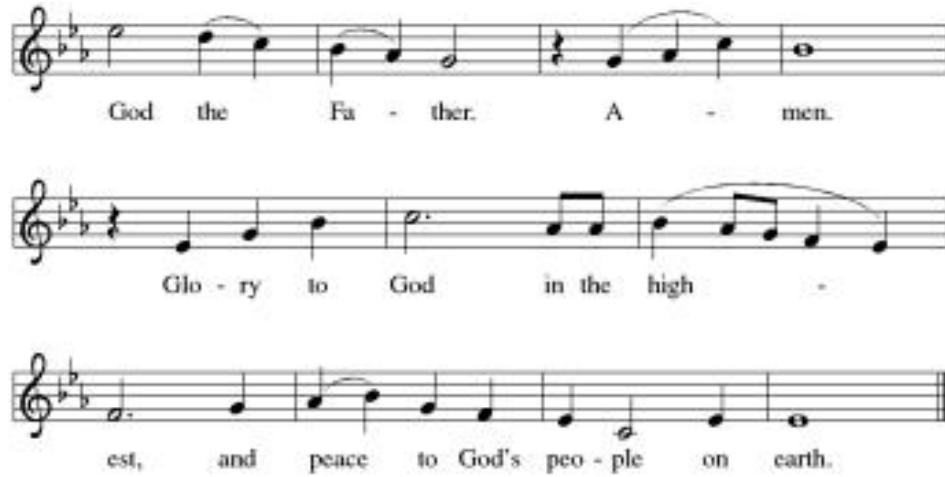
Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

# CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Glo - ry to God in the high -  
est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,  
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and  
Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we  
praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus  
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the  
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.  
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -  
lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,  
Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

**C: God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*The congregation is invited to sit.*

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### FIRST LESSON Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

L: The first lesson is from Ezekiel, the 18<sup>th</sup> chapter.

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>2</sup>What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? <sup>3</sup>As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. <sup>4</sup>Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die. <sup>25</sup>Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? <sup>26</sup>When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. <sup>27</sup>Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. <sup>28</sup>Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. <sup>29</sup>Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? <sup>30</sup>Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. <sup>31</sup>Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart

and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? <sup>32</sup>For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

L: The word of the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

## PSALM 25:1-9

### TONE



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### REFRAIN



Re - mem - ber, O LORD your com - pas - sion and love.

Psalm 25:6

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress.  
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<sup>1</sup>To | you, O LORD,  
I lift | up my soul.

<sup>2</sup>**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.**

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be | put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

<sup>4</sup>**Show me your | ways, O LORD,  
and teach | me your paths. R**

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your | truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.

<sup>6</sup>**Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,  
for they are from | everlasting.**

<sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;  
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your  
good- | ness, O LORD.

<sup>8</sup>**You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD;  
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.**

<sup>9</sup>You lead the low- | ly in justice  
and teach the low- | ly your way. **R**

## SECOND LESSON      **Philippians 2:1-13**

L: The second lesson is from Philippians, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

<sup>1</sup>If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, <sup>7</sup>but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup>he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup>Therefore God also 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 should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. <sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup>for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

L: The word of the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

*The congregation is invited to stand.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
*Repeat alleluia*  
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

## GOSPEL **Matthew 21:23-32**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 21<sup>st</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord!**



<sup>23</sup>When [Jesus] 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, and who gave you this authority?” <sup>24</sup>Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ <sup>26</sup>But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. <sup>28</sup>“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ <sup>29</sup>He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

P: The gospel of the Lord!

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

*The congregation is invited to sit.*

**SERMON**

**Pastor Laura Kuntz**

*The congregation is invited to stand.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**806**

**O God, My Faithful God**

1 O God, my faith - ful God, true foun-tain ev - er flow - ing,  
 2 Give me the strength to do with read - y heart and will - ing;  
 3 Keep me from say - ing words that lat - er need re - call - ing;  
 4 When dan - gers gath - er round, oh, keep me calm and fear - less;



with - out whom noth - ing is, all per - fect gifts be - stow - ing:  
 what - ev - er you com - mand, my call - ing here ful - fill - ing—  
 guard me, lest i - dle speech may from my lips be fall - ing;  
 help me to bear the cross when life seems dark and cheer - less;

give me a health - y frame, and may I have with - in  
 to do it when I ought, with all my might—and bless  
 but when, with - in my place, I must and ought to speak,  
 help me, as you have taught, to love both great and small,

a con - science free from blame, a soul un - stained by sin.  
 what - ev - er I have wrought, for you must give suc - cess.  
 then to my words give grace, lest I of - fend the weak.  
 and, by your Spir - it's might, to live at peace with all.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
 Music: Ahasuerus Fritsch, 1629–1701

WAS FRAG ICH NACH DER WELT  
 67 67 66 66

## APOSTLES' CREED

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

A: Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

*A brief silence.*

A: We put our trust in you as we pray for the church. Give bishops, pastors, deacons, and teachers the gifts of wisdom and discernment. Be with them in bold truth and faithful witness. Merciful God,

**C: Receive our prayer.**

A: Lead us in your truth as we pray for creation. Empower us to look to the interests of others as we make choices that impact the environment. Summon us to be advocates for healthy waterways, habitats, and air. Merciful God,

**C: Receive our prayer.**

A: Lead us in justice as we pray for those in government, the military, and other positions of authority. Give them humble and willing hearts, looking to the needs of others. We pray also for our enemies. Merciful God,

**C: Receive our prayer.**

A: Trusting your goodness, we pray for all caregivers and people who are sick or suffering in any way especially those we say aloud or silently in our hearts. Give them encouragement and consolation in your presence. Merciful God,

**C: Receive our prayer.**

A: Teach us your paths as we pray for this congregation. Be at work in us and unite us in your love as we labor together for the sake of the gospel. Merciful God,

**C: Receive our prayer.**

A: We give thanks for all the saints who died secure in the knowledge of salvation. Keep us fearless in our faith and certain of your resurrection. Merciful God,

**C: Receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for this community of faith and for its Call Committee. For your wisdom and love. Give us holy indifference that we may be indifferent to our own will. Through your Holy Spirit, help us to be unwilling to do anything but your will. Give us patience and guidance as we seek to know what you would like us to do. Bless all that we do, so that we can do what you bless. Hear us, O God.

**C: Receive our prayer.**

P: Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**



guide me day and night, Bless - ed Je - sus, hold my hand.  
 dai - ly meet the foe, Bless - ed Je - sus, hold my hand.  
 whom I can de - pend, Bless - ed Je - sus, hold my hand.

WORDS: Albert E. Brumley  
 MUSIC: Albert E. Brumley

JESUS, HOLD MY HAND  
 Irregular

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*The congregation is invited to stand.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

**C: God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

## DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
 Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
 It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of

angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The image shows a musical score for a hymn, consisting of four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est." The music is written in a simple, melodic style with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#).

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

## LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

## LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

*The congregation is invited to sit.*

## COMMUNION

### O Savior, Precious Savior

820

1 O Sav - ior, pre - cious Sav - ior, whom yet un - seen we love;  
2 O bring - er of sal - va - tion, who won - drous - ly hast wrought,  
3 In thee all full - ness dwell - eth, all grace and pow'r di - vine;  
4 Oh, grant the con - sum - ma - tion of this our song a - bove,

O name of might and fa - vor, all oth - er names a - bove:  
thy - self the rev - e - la - tion of love be - yond our thought:  
the glo - ry that ex - cel - leth, O Son of God, is thine.  
in end - less ad - o - ra - tion and ev - er - last - ing love;

we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;  
 we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;  
 We wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;  
 then shall we praise and bless thee where per - fect prais - es ring,

we praise thee and con - fess thee, our ho - ly Lord and King.  
 we praise thee and con - fess thee, our gra - cious Lord and King.  
 we praise thee and con - fess thee, our glo - rious Lord and King.  
 and ev - er - more con - fess thee, our Sav - ior and our King!

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879  
 Music: Arthur H. Mann, 1850-1929

ANGEL'S STORY  
 7676D

## When Morning Gilds the Skies

853

1 When morn-ing gilds the skies, my heart a - wak - ing cries:  
 2 When mirth for mu - sic longs, this is my song of songs:  
 3 No love - lier an - ti - phon in all high heav'n is known  
 4 Let all of hu - man - kind in this their con - cord find:  
 5 Sing, sun and stars of space, sing, all who see his face,

may Je - sus Christ be praised! When eve - ning shad - ows fall,  
 may Je - sus Christ be praised! God's ho - ly house of prayer  
 than "Je - sus Christ be praised!" There to the e - ter - nal Word  
 may Je - sus Christ be praised! Let all the earth a - round  
 sing, "Je - sus Christ be praised!" God's whole cre - a - tion o'er,



this rings my cur - few call: may Je - sus Christ be praised!  
 has none that can com - pare with "Je - sus Christ be praised!"  
 the e - ter - nal psalm is heard: oh, Je - sus Christ be praised!  
 ring joy - ous with the sound: may Je - sus Christ be praised!  
 to - day and ev - er - more shall Je - sus Christ be praised!

Text: German hymn, 19th cent.; tr. Robert Bridges, 1844–1930, alt.  
 Music: Joseph Barnby, 1838–1896

LAUDES DOMINI  
 666 666

*The congregation is invited to stand.*

### **POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen.**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P: Let us pray,

**C: Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

P: The God of glory, † Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

# SENDING HYMN

## O Master, Let Me Walk with You

818

1 O Mas - ter, let me 'walk with you in low - ly  
2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,  
3 Teach me your pa - tience; share with me a clos - er,  
4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the

paths of ser - vice true; tell me your se - cret;  
win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward  
dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith  
fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly

help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.  
feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.  
sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,  
you can give; with you, O Mas - ter, let me live.

Text: Washington Gladden, 1836-1918, alt.  
Music: H. Percy Smith, 1825-1898

MARYTON  
LM

## DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. God is at work in you.

C: Thanks be to God.



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