**Sixth Sunday After Pentecost**

**July 9, 2023**

**9:30am**



**Christ Lutheran Church**

6500 E. Stearns Street

Long Beach, California 90815

Phone 562-598-2433

www.christlutheranlb.com

Preschool 562-594-6117

[www.clclb.com](http://www.clclb.com)

**Welcome to worship! We’re glad you’re here!**

To assist in your worship:

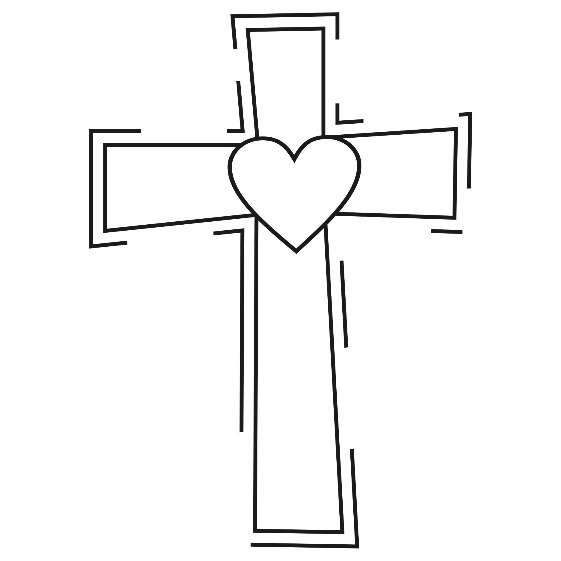
**bold** print means we respond together

**\*** meansstand as you are able,

+ you may make the sign of the cross should you so desire.

**TODAY’S worship THEME**

The mystery of God’s ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God’s mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ’s invitation: “Come to me, all you that are weary.” Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.



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**PRELUDE**  Roger Halvorson

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

**\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, **☩** one God, who greets us in this and every season,

whose word never fails, whose promise is sure. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Merciful God, **we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community.**

**We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy**.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Righteous God**, we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be**

**honest. We have lacked courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy**.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God’s mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ. **Amen**.

**\*GATHERING SONG** *Give Me Jesus #770 vs 1, 2, 3, 5*

**\*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.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE**

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**\*pRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray together. *A brief silence***. You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**WORD**

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

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SCRIPTURE READING** [Romans 7:15-](https://members.sundaysandseasons.com/Home/TextsAndResources/2023-6-11/0)25a PewBible New Testament Pg.164

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSIVE PSALM** Psalm 145:8-14 PewBible Old Testament Pg. 644

The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.  
**9The LORD is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.** 10All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your faithful shall bless you.  
**11They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power,** 12to make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

**13Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. The LORD is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.**

 14The LORD upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down.

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Description automatically generated with low confidence\***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**\*GOSPEL** [Matthew](https://members.sundaysandseasons.com/Home/TextsAndResources/2023-6-4/2415) 11:16-19 Pew Bible New Testament Pg. 11

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 11th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The reading concludes: The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON** Rev. Deborah Andersen

**\*SERMON SONG** *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say #611*

**\*APOSTLES’ CREED**

**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 THE CHURCH**

Trusting in God’s abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need.

*A brief silence.*

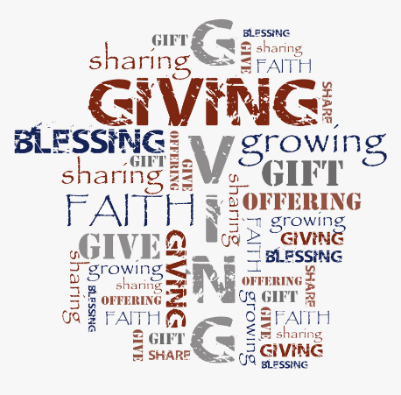
God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**\*SHARING OF PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

**OFFERTORY**



**\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray together. **God of field and forest, sea and sky, You are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, And multiply your graciousness in us, That the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus.*

**\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. **And also 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.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy…

We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**\*SONG OF THANKSGIVING**

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**\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

With this bread and cup, we remember our Lord’s passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

We pray for the gift of your Spirit…in your church, without end. **Amen.**

**\*LORD’S PRAYER**

**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.**

**DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

We believe that this is Jesus' table. All are welcome and invited to commune.  We serve communion by “intinction”; receive the bread and dip it in the chalice of red wine. Currently we are offering individual communion cups as an alternative to intinction if you so desire. Both wine and grape juice (white) are offered in the tray. Gluten free bread is available; let your server know. Should you choose not to commune, please come forward to receive a blessing. Please cross your arms across your chest.



**lamb of god**

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**COMMUNION SONG** *Amazing Love*

**Verse 1**

My Lord what love is this  
That pays so dearly  
That I the guilty one  
May go free

**Chorus**

Amazing love O what sacrifice  
The Son of God giv'n for me  
My debt He pays and my death He dies  
That I might live  
That I might live

**Verse 2**

And so they watched Him die  
Despised rejected  
But oh the blood He shed  
Flowed for me (Chorus)

**Verse 3**

And now this love of Christ  
Shall flow like rivers  
Come wash your guilt away  
Live again (Chorus)

**\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray together. **We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior, and Lord. Amen.**

**SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

**\*BLESSING**

The God who faithfully calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed **☩** bless, keep, and sustain you, now and to the end of the age. **Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN** *Just a Closer Walk with Thee #697*

**\*Dismissal**

Go in peace. Share the harvest. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** Roger Halvorson

**CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF**

**Interim Pastor**  Rev. Laurie Arroyo, lauriethere@msn.com

**Office Manager** Kim Croes, [officemanager@christlutheranlb.com](mailto:officemanager@christlutheranlb.com)

**Preschool Director** Lisa Clinton, info@clplb.com

**Interim Choir Director** Kim Philips, kimsings@msn.com

**Accompanist** Roger Halvorson

**Percussionist** Nathan Latiolait

**Missionary to Colombia** Linda Gawthorne

**It is our joy to worship with your whole family this morning!**

We encourage everyone of all ages and abilities to worship together. If you do need to take a "time out", please do so in the narthex (gathering space at the entry), and return to worship when you are ready. A changing table is located in the restroom off the narthex. Activity bags, filled with crayons, paper and storybooks, are available in the narthex. Please ask an usher if you need any assistance.

**Mission Statement**

Living by Christ’s example, we welcome, serve, and love all through God’s grace.

**Vision Statement**

Embracing the truth that God’s love and grace is for all, Christ Lutheran Church is a vibrant and active community spreading the good news through acceptance, action, and benevolence.

**Our Position**

Christ is ALIVE!

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