Christ Lutheran Church & The Bridge Campus Ministry July 17, 2022 – Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Connecting people to people • people to faith • faith to life 69 Mill Street • Athens, OH • (740) 593-3144 info@clcathens.org • www.clcathens.org

INTRODUCTION

Perhaps the church, at its best, is "all ears." God urges the faithful, again and again, to "listen up!"—to heed the word that gives life. So it was with Abraham and Sarah, Mary and Martha, and the early church at Colossae. So it is today as we join the assembly to hear the word of God, the word of life.

WELCOME AND PRELUDE (PLEASE POWER OFF OR AIRPLANE MODE YOUR DEVICES)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, • one God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

Amen.

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

Merciful God,

we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way.
Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table.
When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side.
Set us again on the path of life.
Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors.
Amen.

Hear the good news!

God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy.

In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

Day by Day (ELW 790)



- 1 Day by day, your mer-cies, Lord, at tend me, bring ing com fort
- 2 Day by day, I know you will pro vide me strength to serve and
- 3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my bur dens



to my anx-ious soul. wis-dom to o - bey; grow too great to bear;

Day by day, the bless-ings, Lord, you send me I will seek your lov-ing will to guide me oh, what joy to know that you will hear me



draw me near - er to my heav'n-ly goal. Love di - vine, be-yond all o'er the paths I strug-gle day by day. I will fear no e - vil when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer. Day by day, no mat - ter



mor - tal mea - sure, of the mor - row, what be - tide me, brings to naught the bur-dens of my quest; Sav-ior, I will trust in your en-dur-ing grace. Sav-ior, you will hold me ev-er in your hand. Sav-ior,



lead me to the home I trea-sure, where at last I'll find e - ter-nal rest. help me bear life's pain and sor-row till in glo - ry I be-hold your face. with your pres-ence here to guide me, I will reach at last the prom-ised land.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Robert Leaf, 1936–2005 Music: BLOTT EN DAG, Oskar Ahnfelt, 1813–1882 Text © 1992 Augsburg Fortress

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

FIRST READING: Genesis 18:1-10a

A reading from Genesis.

¹The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ²He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. ³He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." ⁶And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." ⁷Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." ^{10a}Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 15

¹LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? Who may abide upon your holy hill?

²Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,

who speak the truth from their heart;

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends; they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

⁴In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD.

They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.

⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

SECOND READING: Colossians 1:15-28

A reading from Colossians.

¹⁵[Christ Jesus] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or

dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

²¹And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²²he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him—²³provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

²⁴I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. ²⁵I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. ²⁷To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Luke 10:38-42

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁸Now as [Jesus and his disciples] went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. ³⁹She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." ⁴¹But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; ⁴²there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

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

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

For All the Faithful Women (KUORTANE) (ELW 419) Verses 1, 2, 7, Last



- 1 For all the faith-ful wom en who served in days of old, Insert one or more of stanzas 3-11 or this general stanza 2:
- 2 O God, for saints and ser vants, those named and those un-known, Last All praise to God the Fa ther! All praise to Christ the Son!



to you shall thanks be giv - en; to all, their stor - y told.

in whom through all the a - ges your light of glo - ry shone, All praise to God the Spir - it, who binds the church as one!



They served with strength and glad - ness in tasks your wis - dom gave.

we of - fer glad thanks-giv - ing and fer - vent prayer we raise With saints who went be - fore us, with saints who wit - ness still,



To you their lives bore wit - ness, pro-claimed your pow'r to save.

that, faith - ful in your ser - vice, our lives may sing your praise. we sing glad al - le - lu - ias and strive to do your will.

Martha and Mary

7 We sing of busy Martha who toiled with pot and pan while Mary sat in silence to hear the word again. Christ, keep our hearts attentive to truth that you declare, and strengthen us for service when work becomes our prayer.

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 OF INTERCESSION

We come before you in prayer, trusting that your power works in the world in ways we cannot even imagine,

God, we thank you for the beauty and complexity of the universe that stirs our awe, imagination and appreciation, and for a creative power that stretches beyond our understanding. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

God, now, more than ever, we need to place our trust in you, as we remember that you are not the author of confusion but of peace; and so we pray for a ceasefire, a withdrawal of Russian forces and for peace to prevail. Pray for the innocent – the women, men and children who are displaced, whose lives are disrupted, and who live in fear of the atrocities of war. Pray for those in power – that they may make a resolute and public decision to never use force, to actively work for peace and seek peaceful solutions to disputes and disagreements.

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

God, remember in prayer those confined in our jails, prisons and correctional facilities. Pray that they will be treated justly and humanely, be renewed by the good news of Jesus Christ, and find hope and strength in God's love and mercy. Pray for the Spirit to help us extend our hospitality, acceptance and support to people previously incarcerated as they do the challenging work of building new lives in our communities.

Lord in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

God, we pray for the young people in our families, churches and communities. May they grow up knowing love and hope, valuing life and respecting others. We pray for those who are preparing to leave school and move on to the next stage in their lives. Give them courage and hope as they face changes in their lives and help them to see opportunities in all the challenges that stretch out before them.

Lord in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

God, we pray for your healing touch to rest upon those who are sick, your strength to be felt by those who are tired, your wisdom and your love to encourage those who live with despair and fear. Remember in prayer our neighbors who struggle financially and live with the uncertainty of how they will support and care for themselves and their families. Pray that the Spirit will inspire us to respond with respect for their dignity and to affirm our interdependence as children of God. And hear now the names of those for whom we offer prayers, either aloud on in our hearts...

Lord in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

God, through the ministry of your son Jesus Christ, You have freed us from the grip of the tomb. We pray for those who have departed this life and ask You, through your loving kindness, to have mercy on their souls. We pray too for those grieving their deaths.

Lord in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

God, may your presence be seen clearly in what we do each day throughout the coming week. We pray that your joy and your love will flow freely in us and through us as we follow where you lead us. Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

PRAYER CHAIN UPDATE

Dan Snoddy requests prayers for his sister, Barbara, who has a mass between her skull and brain. She had surgery to remove the mass Thursday 7/14.

PEACE

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

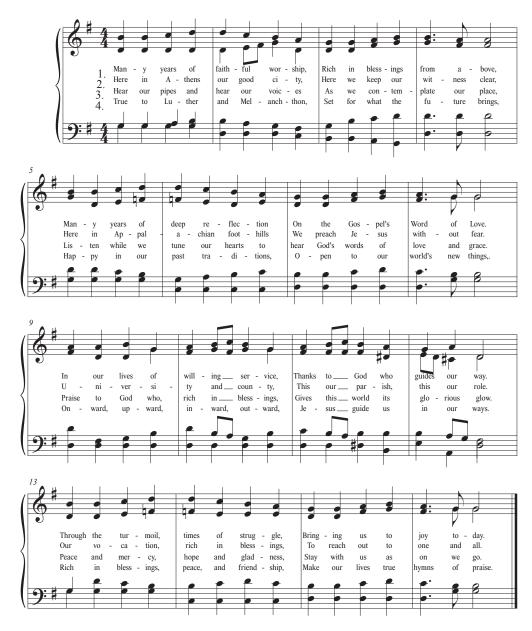
OFFERING - THANK YOU! YOUR GENEROSITY MAKES OUR MINISTRY POSSIBLE.

Giving is easy online through our website at https://www.clcathens.org/give

There you will also find instructions for how you can text to give or by downloading our church app!

OFFERTORY

Rich in Blessings



Text: Geoge Wekman, 2019 Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827, adapt.

Hymn To Joy

OFFERING PRAYER

God of abundance:

you have set before us a plentiful harvest.

As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field,

and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

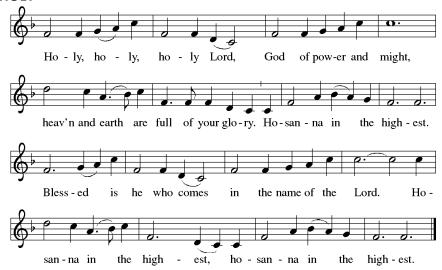
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God,

our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer,

in the harmonious world of your creation, the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world,

you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.

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.

Remembering, therefore,

his acts of healing, his body given up,

and his victory over death,

we await that day when all the peoples of the earth

will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal:

as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,

Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,

in your holy Church,

both now and forever. Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The God of peace,
Father,

Father,

Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you, comfort you,
and show you the path of life
this day and always.

Amen.



SENDING SONG Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing (ELW 389)



Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: TRURO, T. Williams, Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

Thanks be to God.

SERVING TODAY: Presider/Preacher: Chad Huebner; Organist: George Weckman; Asst/Lector: Steve Chikosky; Livestream: Sam Hanson; Greeter: Linda Batey; Time with Children: Puppets; Acolyte: Meena Juedes; Ushers: Dan Snoddy, John Laughlin