

Christ Lutheran Church & The Bridge Campus Ministry

July 31, 2022 – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Connecting people to people • people to faith • faith to life

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INTRODUCTION

Today's texts offer instruction and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the "unhappy business" of life. Jesus urges us to take care and be on guard against all kinds of greed. We who have died with Christ in holy baptism have also been raised with him and are encouraged to elevate our thinking, seeking the "things that are above." To that end we seek the encouragement of God's word.

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

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.
We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

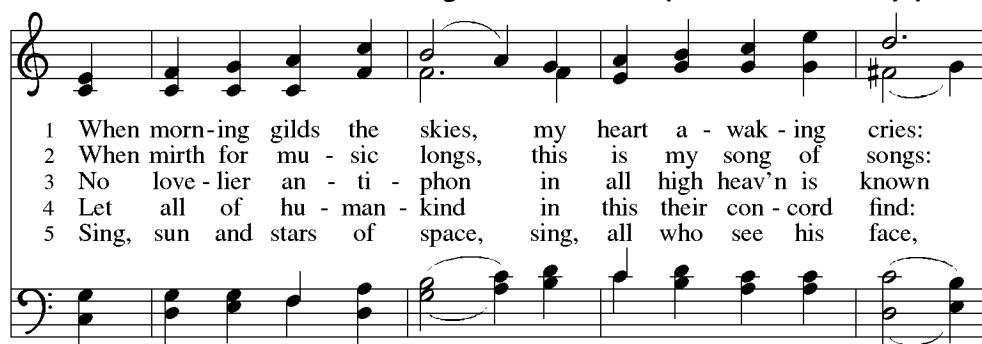
We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

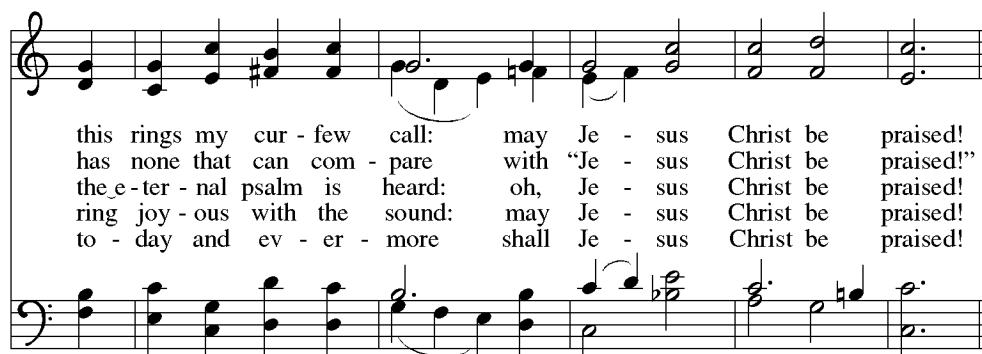
When Morning Gilds the Skies (LAUDES DOMINI) (ELW 853)



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: LAUDES DOMINI, Joseph Barnby, 1838–1896

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.

Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

TIME WITH CHILDREN

FIRST READING: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

A reading from Ecclesiastes.

²Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹²I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, ¹³applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. ¹⁴I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

^{2:18}I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me ¹⁹—and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²²What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 49:1-12

¹Hear this, all you peoples;
give ear, all you who dwell in the world,
²**you of high degree and low,
rich and poor together.**
³My mouth shall speak of wisdom,
and my heart shall meditate on understanding.
⁴**I will incline my ear to a proverb
and set forth my riddle upon the harp.**
⁵Why should I be afraid in evil days,
when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,
⁶**the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess,
and boast of their great riches?**
⁷One can never redeem another,
or give to God the ransom for another's life;
⁸**for the ransom of a life is so great
that there would never be enough to pay it,**
⁹in order to live forever and ever
and never see the grave.

¹⁰**For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish
and leave their wealth to those who come after them.**

¹¹Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation to generation,

though they had named lands after themselves.

¹²**Even though honored, they cannot live forever;
they are like the ¹ beasts that perish.**

SECOND READING: Colossians 3:1-11

A reading from Colossians.

¹So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

⁵Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life.

⁸But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Luke 12:13-21

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” ¹⁴But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” ¹⁶Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ ¹⁸Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ ²⁰But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

When the Poor Ones: Cuando el pobre (ELW 725)



1 Cuan-do el po - bre na - da tie - ne y aún re - par - te,
 1 When the poor ones, who have noth - ing, still are giv - ing;
 2 When com - pas - sion gives the suf - f'ring con - so - la - tion;
 3 When our spir - its, like a chal - ice, brim with glad - ness;
 4 When the good - ness poured from heav - en fills our dwell - ings;



cuan - do al - guien pa - sa sed ya - gua nos da,
 when the thirst - y pass the cup, wa - ter to share;
 when ex - pect - ing brings to birth hope that was lost;
 when our voic - es, full and clear, sing out the truth;
 when the na - tions work to change war in - to peace;



cuan-do el dé - bil a su her - ma - no for - ta - le - ce:
 when the wound - ed of - fer oth - ers strength and heal - ing;
 when we choose love, not the ha - tred all a - round us;
 when our long - ings, free from en - vy, seek the hum - ble:
 when the strang - er is ac - cept - ed as our neigh - bor:

Refrain / Estribillo



Va Dios mis - mo en nues - tro mis - mo ca - mi - nar;
 We see God, here by our side, walk - ing our way;



va Dios mis - mo en nues - tro mis - mo ca - mi - nar.
 we see God, here by our side, walk - ing our way.

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

Let us pray for the church, the world, and all people according to their needs.

Dear God, thank you for bringing us together here this morning with our loving church family. Please help us to share your love with our neighbors here in Athens and around the world. Help us to remember to set our minds on things that are above, not things on the Earth, as we strive to follow your path every day. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of Comfort, many people are dealing with problems caused by weather, earthquakes, disasters and other emergencies we hear about in the news every day. Others are dealing with problems in their own lives that we may know nothing about. We ask you to help them as they face these challenges, and we ask you to help us to follow your example as we show them love, provide them with comfort, and give them hope. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of Love, as we go through our daily lives, help us to be guided by Christ's example so that we might be kind and caring to everyone we meet. And please help us to remember that while we are all different in so many ways, we are all Your children because You made us in Your image. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of Peace, so many people live in danger and in fear in our world. Please be with everyone whose lives are filled with danger of any sort. We ask you to help our leaders around the world to work for peace instead of conflict. Please protect those who serve in the military, comfort military families, and bless our veterans. We ask you to also bless all refugees and help them to find comfort, respect, and acceptance. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of Compassion, we ask you to comfort those experiencing grief and loss and to relieve those who are suffering. Please also bring strength to those who are hospitalized, confined to homes, or undergoing tests. We pray for healing for anyone who is ill in mind, body, or spirit. Restore to wholeness those who are struggling with addictions. Bless our shut-ins and help us to bring them joy. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of Comfort, be with those to whom death draws near and those who have lost loved ones. Bring peace and comfort to all who mourn; knowing with the conviction of our faith that because you so loved the world that you gave your Chosen Son, who died and rose again, we too will have eternal life. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **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.

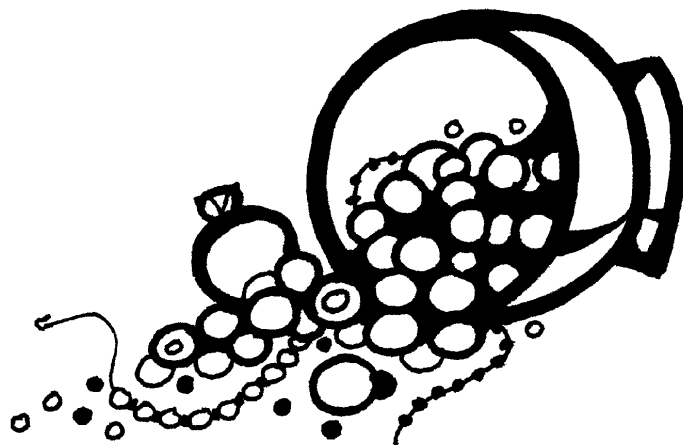
PEACE

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

Now Thank We All Our God (isometric) (ELW 840)

1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
 2 Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,

who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
 with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
 the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,

who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
 and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
 the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;

with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
 and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878
 Music: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory 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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
 so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
 The God of all grace ✠ bless you **Amen.**

SENDING SONG *All Depends on Our Possessing (ELW 589)*

1 All de - pends on our pos - sess - ing God's free grace and
 2 God, who hith - er - to has fed me and to man - y
 3 When with sor - row I am strick - en, hope my heart a -
 4 Well you know what best to grant me; all the long - ing
 5 If on earth my days should length - en, God, my wea - ry

con - stant bless - ing, though all earth - ly wealth de - part.
 joys has led me, is and ev - er shall be mine.
 new will quick - en, all my long - ing shall be stilled.
 hopes that haunt me, joy and sor - row, have their day.
 soul still strength - en; all my trust in you I place.

They who trust with faith un - shak - en by their God are
 God, who did so gent - ly school me and who dai - ly
 To your lov - ing - kind - ness ten - der all my be - ing
 I shall doubt your wis - dom nev - er; as you will, so
 Earth - ly wealth is not a - bid - ing; like a stream a -

not for - sak - en and will keep a daunt - less heart.
 guides and rules me, will re - main my help di - vine.
 I sur - ren - der; Lord, on you a - lone I build.
 be it ev - er; I com - mit to you my way.
 way it's glid - ing; safe I an - chor in your grace.

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Nürnberg, 1676; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
 Music: ALLES IST AN GÖTTES SEGEN, Johann Löhner, 1645–1705, adapt.

DISMISSAL

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

SERVING TODAY: Preacher: Jane Unger; Organist: George Weckman; Asst/Lector: Sam Hanson; Livestream: Marilyn Shealy; Greeter: Sue Ellen Miller; Time with Children: Chris Snoddy; Acolyte: Jane Unger; Ushers: Rod Sauer, Jo Ann Ball

