

Christ Lutheran Church
23425 Davis Mill Road
Germantown, Maryland 20876

A Congregation of the American Association of Lutheran Churches



Our Mission Statement

We strive to be worthy witnesses to the world.

**At Christ Lutheran, we strive to lead lives worthy of our calling as witnesses to the Good News of Jesus Christ in God's world.
(Ephesians 4:1)**

Web Site: christlutheranofgermantown.org

Facebook: Christ Lutheran Church AALC

Email: clcedargrove@outlook.com

Church Phone: 301 972-5529

Church Secretary: Carrie Shriver Perini
Mobile phone: 240 397-3498
Email: perinicarrie@gmail.com

Pastor Emeritus: Irvin Stapf
Pastor: Abraham McNally
Mobile phone: 319 239-2441
Email: honestabe@mchsi.com

Pianist: Meryl Benenati

Worship Team:

Bass Guitar: Bruce Gladhill
Dobro, Banjo, Autoharp, Mandolin, Keyboard,
Trumpet & Guitar: Art Delagrange
Pianist: Meryl Benenati
Soloist: Rebekah Stapf

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 13, 2020

*****The Confession and Absolution**

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(A time of silent reflection and self-examination.)

Pastor: Most merciful God.

People: We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen

Pastor: Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for you and for his sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. Thanks be to God.

*****Opening Hymn:**

Blessing and Honor, and Glory and Power

Hymn #166

Blessing and honor, and glory and power,
Wisdom, and riches, and strength evermore,
Give ye to him who our battle hath won,
Whose are the kingdom, the crown and the throne,
Whose are the kingdom, the crown and the throne.

Dwelleth the light of the glory with him,
Light of a glory that cannot grow dim,
Light in its silence and beauty and calm,
Light in its gladness and brightness and balm,
Light in its gladness and brightness and balm.

Ever ascendeth the song and the joy,
Ever descendeth the love from on high,
Blessing, and honor, and glory, and praise,
This is the theme of the hymns that we raise,
This is the theme of the hymns that we raise.

Give we the glory and praise to the Lamb;
Take we the robe and the harp and the palm;
Sing we the song of the Lamb that was slain,
Dying in weakness, but rising to reign,
Dying in weakness, but rising to reign.

*****Psalm: Psalm 103:1-12 (read responsively)**

Pastor: Bless the Lord, O my soul,

People: and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

Pastor: Bless the Lord, O my soul,

People: and forget not all his benefits,

Pastor: who forgives all your iniquity,

People: who heals all your diseases,

Pastor: who redeems your life from the pit,

People: who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

Pastor: who satisfies you with good

People: so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Pastor: The Lord works righteousness

People: and justice for all who are oppressed.

Pastor: He made known his ways to Moses,

People: his acts to the people of Israel.

Pastor: The Lord is merciful and gracious,

People: slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Pastor: He will not always chide,

People: nor will he keep his anger forever.

Pastor: He does not deal with us according to our sins,

People: nor repay us according to our iniquities.

Pastor: For as high as the heavens are above the earth,

People: so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

Pastor: as far as the east is from the west,

People: so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

*****The Gloria Patri: (sung)** Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*****The Kyrie: (responses are sung)**

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Pastor: Christ, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Pastor: Glory be to God on high!

*****Gloria in Excelsis: (sung)** And on earth peace, goodwill toward men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

*****Collect:**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Pastor: Let us Pray.

People: Heavenly Father, when your servant, Joseph, forgave his erring brothers he demonstrated your own love and mercy toward us. Give us hearts like Joseph, hearts like Christ, and increase our faith so that we might always forgive one another as we have been forgiven. In Jesus' name we pray, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

The Scripture Lessons:

Old Testament Lesson: Genesis 50:15-21

15 When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong which we did to him!" 16 So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father charged before he died, saying, 17 'Thus you shall say to Joseph, "Please forgive, I beg you, the transgression of your brothers and their sin, for they did you wrong.'" And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." And Joseph wept when they spoke to him. 18 Then his brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." 19 But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid, for am I in God's place? 20 As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result, to preserve many people alive. 21 So therefore, do not be afraid; I will provide for you and your little ones." So he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

Pastor: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Lesson: Romans 14:1-12

1 Now accept the one who is weak in faith, but not for the purpose of passing judgment on his opinions. 2 One person has faith that he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats vegetables only. 3 The one who eats is not to regard with contempt the one who does not eat, and the one who does not eat is not to judge the one who eats, for God has accepted him. 4 Who are you to judge the servant of another? To his own master he stands or falls; and he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand. 5 One person regards one day above another, another regards every day alike. Each person must be fully convinced in his own mind. 6 He who observes the day, observes it for the Lord, and he who eats, does so for the Lord, for he gives thanks to God; and he who eats not, for the Lord he does not eat, and gives thanks to God. 7 For not one of us lives for himself, and not one dies for himself; 8 for if we live, we live for the Lord, or if we die, we die for the Lord; therefore whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. 9 For to this end Christ died and lived again, that He might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. 10 But you, why do you judge your brother? Or you again, why do you regard your brother with contempt? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. 11 For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to Me, And every tongue shall give praise to God." 12 So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God.

Pastor: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

*****The Alleluia: (sung)** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Pastor: Lift up your hearts and hear the Holy Gospel as it is recorded in the eighteenth chapter of Saint Matthew beginning with the twenty-first verse.

*****People (sung)** Glory be to thee, O Lord

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 18:21-35

21 Then Peter came and said to Him, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?” 22 Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven. 23 “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. 24 When he had begun to settle them, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him. 25 But since he did not have the means to repay, his lord commanded him to be sold, along with his wife and children and all that he had, and repayment to be made. 26 So the slave fell to the ground and prostrated himself before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me and I will repay you everything.’ 27 And the lord of that slave felt compassion and released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But that slave went out and found one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and he seized him and began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay back what you owe.’ 29 So his fellow slave fell to the ground and began to plead with him, saying, ‘Have patience with me and I will repay you.’ 30 But he was unwilling and went and threw him in prison until he should pay back what was owed. 31 So when his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were deeply grieved and came and reported to their lord all that had happened. 32 Then summoning him, his lord said to him, ‘You wicked slave, I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. 33 Should you not also have had mercy on your fellow slave, in the same way that I had mercy on you?’ 34 And his lord, moved with anger, handed him over to the torturers until he should repay all that was owed him. 35 My heavenly Father will also do the same to you, if each of you does not forgive his brother from your heart.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

*****People: (sung)** Praise be to thee, O Christ

Children’s Sermon

Pastor McNally



Pass me not, O gentle Saviour, Hear my humble cry;
While on others thou art calling, Do not pass me by.

Refrain: Saviour, Saviour, hear my humble cry,
While on others thou art calling, Do not pass me by.

Let me at thy throne of mercy Find a sweet relief;
Kneeling there in deep contrition, Help my unbelief. *Refrain*

Trusting only in thy merit, Would I seek thy face;
Heal my wounded, broken spirit, Save me by thy grace. *Refrain*

Thou the spring of all my comfort, More than life to me;
Whom have I on earth beside thee, Whom in heaven but thee?

Sermon:

Pastor McNally

In God's Place



The Sermon Response: (sung) Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right Spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation and uphold me with thy free spirit.

***** *The Apostles' Creed:***

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Christian Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.

******The General Prayer:*** (after each petition)

Pastor: Lord in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

******The Prayer Response:*** (sung)

Hear our prayer, O Lord. Hear our prayer, O Lord. Incline thine ear to us and grant us thy peace. Amen

*****The Preface: (responses are sung)**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

People: It is meet and right so to do.

*****Proper Preface:**

Pastor: It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God: Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; ever more praising thee, and saying:

*****The Sanctus: (sung)**

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heaven and earth are full of thy glory; Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.

*****The Consecration:**

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, in the night in which he was betrayed, took bread; and, when he had given thanks, he brake it and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you; this do in remembrance of me."

After the same manner also, he took the cup, when he had supped and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of it; this cup is the New Testament in my blood, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins; this do, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me."

*****The Eucharistic Prayer:**

Pastor: Remembering, therefore, his salutary precept, his life-giving Passion and Death, his glorious Resurrection and Ascension and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to thee, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought, but as we are able; and we beseech thee mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving, and with thy Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, thy servants, and these thine own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who partake thereof may be filled with heavenly benediction and grace, and, receiving the remission of sins, be sanctified in soul and body, and have our portion with all thy saints. And unto thee, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in thy holy Church, world without end. Amen.

*****The Lord's Prayer:**

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, For ever and ever. Amen.

*****The Agnus Dei: (sung)**

O Christ, thou Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, thou Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, thou Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace. Amen.

The Communion

*****Post Communion Blessing:**

Pastor: The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ and His precious Blood strengthen and preserve you unto eternal life.

People: *Nunc Dimittis* (Simeon's Prayer): (sung) Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation which thou has prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Pastor: O give thanks to the Lord for He is good.

People: (sung) And His mercy endureth forever.

*****Closing Prayer: (responses are sung)**

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to thee, Almighty God, that thou hast refreshed us with this thy salutary gift; and we beseech thee, of thy mercy, to strengthen us through the same gift, in faith toward thee and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, thy dear Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end.

People: Amen.

Pastor: The Peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Pastor: Bless we the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*****The Benediction:**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

People: (sung) The threefold Amen

A-men, A-men, A---men.

*****Closing Hymn:**

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Hymn #168

O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home:

Under the shadow of thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is thine arm alone, And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood, Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting thou art God, To endless years the same.

A thousand Ages in thy sight Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream, Bears all its sons away;
They fly forgotten, as a dream Dies at the opening day.

O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guide while troubles last, And our eternal home!

Prayers and Praises:

For our church leaders:

Presiding Pastor: The Reverend Doctor Curtis Leins

Assisting Pastor: Pastor Roger Twito

Secretary Pastor: Pastor Joe Marsh

Home Mission Developer: Pastor Dean Stoner

National Office Administrator: Bonnie Ohlrich

Seminary President: The Reverend Doctor Tom Stover

Seminary Administrator: Duane Kleven

Joyce Ballard	Mark & Terri Ballard	Casey Day & family
Glenn Shriver	Robin Nicholson	Donald Burdette
Laura Nichols	Michael D'Amico	Dianne Wentzell
Hope Johnston	Nancy Gregory	Pat Anderson
Sidney Neighbors	Ken Ford	Tammy Stimmell
Herb Pinkerton	Tim Birdseye	Lee Ballard
Samantha Shriver	Irene Gray	Ashley Gray
Will Stapf	Lt. Victor Monaghan	Carrie Perini
Grace & Zach Gorevin and Matt & Dorien Gorevin		
Mike Perry		

For the President and the leaders of our nation

For those in the armed Services: Grace Gorevin, Zach Gorevin, Christopher Clarke, Terry O'Brien, Travis Hawk, Skyler Hawk, Bethany Hueter, Chaplain John Reutemann, Pastor Len Brokenshire, Cameron Donk, Ethan Stone, Rebecca Deppe

For our Seminary Students: Nigel Brown

For a Region congregation: Our Savior Lutheran Church, Piqua, OH

For our missionary work: Youth for Christ, Montgomery County

For those being persecuted for their faith in Christ

For the congregations of our Germantown/Clarksburg/Damascus community:

Damascus United Methodist Church

For the congregations of the American Association of Lutheran Churches

For our college students: Haven Flesch, Shelby Evans, Maddie Day

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **We are still in the county's phase 2 of reopening and will continue holding 2 services, 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM, due to occupancy constraints. The 10:30 service will be livestreamed. Please contact Pastor McNally to indicate which service you would like to attend. Thank you for your patience during this time as we do our best to be faithful to God and the civil authorities.**
- **Due to the virus constraints the nursery will not be available at this time. Children are encouraged to stay with their parents throughout the service. Please bring any "busy" items you may need for the children from home.**
- **Men's Bible Study: To be announced 😊**
- **Women's Bible Study: To be announced 😊**
- **Adult Sunday School: To be announced 😊**
- **You may continue to watch the Sunday services (10:30AM) via Livestream on Facebook – Christ Lutheran Church AALC. The Bulletins for the services are on our Website: christlutheranofgermantown.org. The video of every livestream is on our Facebook page. You can access the livestream by clicking the link at the bottom of the first page of our website or by visiting the Facebook page directly. Be sure to click on the 'videos' tab.**
- **Church Council will meet next Sunday, September 20, 2020. Reports are due to Carrie in the office by Tuesday, September 15th.**

SERMON NOTES: In God's Place