# **Christ Lutheran Church**

Germantown, Maryland

Epistle To The Saints

July, 2021

Service at 10:30 AM each Sunday

- Sunday, July 4<sup>th</sup>-Independence Day
- Sunday, July 11<sup>th</sup>-Church Council Meeting



Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD,

The people whom He has chosen for His own inheritance.

-Psalms 33:12

### Welcome!

To view the livestream of our services, go to the church Facebook page (Christ Lutheran Church AALC) or go to our website (christlutheranofgermantown.org) and click the link at the bottom of the first page. Once on the FB page click the "videos" tab. Bulletins for our services are on the website.

"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." –Romans 15:13

God has packed so much into this single, little verse. In it He teaches us so much about himself and us. First, He tells us what kind of God He is. He is the God of hope. This means that His primary, proper work is not to punish or condemn, but to give us hope. Even His Law drives us to our knees in repentance so that we might believe and have hope in our Blessed Lord, Jesus Christ and what He has done for us.

Second, God teaches us the benefit of this believing. Through faith in Christ, we know we have the entire forgiveness of all our sins and even eternal life in Him. This hope gives us joy in our lives. Picture the joy on the face of a small child opening their gifts at Christmastime. How much more joy can we have at the gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation God has granted us in Jesus? And joy isn't something that is easily squashed. It doesn't fade as quickly as the smiles of Christmas morning. Joy has the power to endure all circumstances because it doesn't depend on the circumstance. It depends on the gift and its giver, God our Father.

Another result of this believing is peace. Peace, like joy, doesn't depend on our circumstances. Peace is the rest we can have because of the hope God has given us. And hope is not something like a wish or a dream. Hope is certainty. We can be absolutely assured that God has taken care of us and will take care of us to eternity in Jesus Christ. No matter the trials and sufferings in our lives, we have no cause to doubt, and every cause to believe in Jesus. In Him we have joy and peace.

God tells us that, through faith in Christ, we will abound in hope. But, when we do look at our circumstances, we are tempted to despair instead of joy, and fear instead of peace. Thankfully, we don't have to rely on ourselves and our own strength to have hope, joy, and peace, or even faith. God tells us that we will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. This is a great comfort. In those times when your joy seems small, when peace is hard to find, you can have hope, certainty, and assurance that the Holy Spirit is with you and will help you. He will help you in the dark times and the light ones. He will help you every day. So let us pray that God would increase our faith in Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit so that we will have hope, joy, and peace in abundance. Amen.

-Pastor Abraham McNally

July Birthdays
11<sup>th</sup>-Jane Simcox
15<sup>th</sup>-LC Gibson
16<sup>th</sup>-Helen Gibson
17<sup>th</sup>-Michael Vallarino

**July Baptisms** 

9<sup>th</sup>-Samantha Shriver 27<sup>th</sup>-Reagan Herndon

#### PRAYER AND PRAISE

**IRVIN STAPF:** Father, we thank you for your continued healing in Pastor Stapf.

**LAURA NICHOLS:** Father, we praise you for your continued healing in Laura.

**NANCY GREGORY:** Father, we ask you to be with Nancy and help her to feel comfort and peace, as well as Your love.

**PASTOR CURTIS LEINS:** Father, we thank you for Pastor Leins. We pray that you will keep him in your care and bless his work in Your name.

**PASTOR ABRAHAM MCNALLY:** We thank you Lord, for sending Pastor Abraham to us. Be with him as he continues to be a blessing to our congregation.

**ART DELAGRANGE:** Lord we ask that you heal Art and rid him of pain.

**DIANNE WENTZELL:** Lord Jesus, we pray that you heal Dianne and give her comfort.

**CLYDE GIBSON:** We thank you Father, for watching over and healing Clyde. Continue to bless and comfort him Lord.

**TAMMY STIMMELL:** Lord, we thank you for her healing and ask that you continue to watch over her.

**NIGEL BROWN:** Lord, be with Nigel as he completes his seminary studies.

**FOR OUR CONGREGATION:** Father, we ask your merciful goodness in providing us with the wisdom, discernment and courage to do Your will.

**FOR OUR CHILDREN:** Lord, keep each of them strong in You each day. Protect them and guide them in the plan that You have for each of them.

**FOR OUR PASTORS:** By the power and presence of the Holy Spirit, please uphold and help them stand firm in the truth of Your gracious word.

**FOR THOSE SERVING AWAY FROM HOME:** Father, please guide them in Your mercy and bless them with Your love.



Like us on Facebook.
Christ Lutheran Church AALC
Pastor McNally has our Facebook page
looking great! Lots of wonderful information
about our church, congregation, and news.
Every week the service's video is posted.
AWESOME!



#### christlutheranofgermantown.org

We encourage you to provide Jeane with your comments and things that you think would add additional value to the site.



#### **School Supply Drive Announcement**

I can't believe it's that time of year again! We are planning for the annual Faith Connections summer school supply drive. Each year we collect new school supplies to help children in the Damascus-Clarksburg area. The students who receive the school supplies are typically from families who rely on public assistance, have fallen on particularly hard times or have had a difficult time providing for the basic needs of their children in the past. Bins will be available in early July and picked up around August 15th.

-Tiffany Cupps, Faith Connections







Thanks to YOU and our Community, we were able to bless CareNet Pregnancy Center in Frederick with car loads of baby items. Thank you, Pastor Abraham, for delivering all of the items!!





Thank you EVERYONE who helped with donating and collecting food for Damascus HELP. Thank you, Sarah, for organizing this event!!

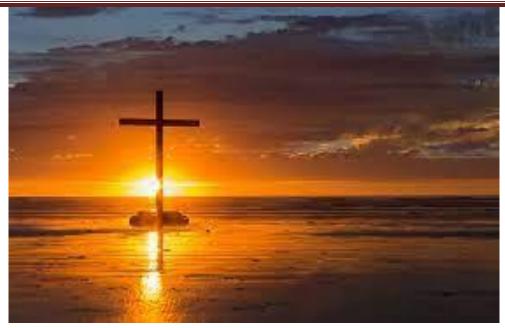
## From Pastor Scott Yount and Joy 4 Ukraine!

June 7-11 Pastor Scott held a camp all a about "How God Rescues Us" for the kids in Ukraine.



Pastor Scott was also blessed to have the opportunity to help at an English Bible camp for kids from villages in Southern Ukraine with Spiritual Orphans Network and Alexander Gross, a local Ukrainian Lutheran pastor, from June 14-18.

Pastor Gross wrote, "The village of Novogradkovka hosted a summer Bible camp with English for 30 teenagers. Stories from David's life revealed five important topics to us: election, difficulties, danger, trials and hope for the future. God chose David for the kingdom when he was a teenager and a shepherd. He doesn't look at the appearance, but looks at the heart of man."



Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?"
-John 11:40



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