

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: clcmd.org or christlutheranofgermantown.org

Facebook: Christ Lutheran Church AALC

Email: clcedargrove@outlook.com

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Church Secretary: Carrie Shriver Perini
Mobile phone: 240 397-3498
Email: perinicarrie@gmail.com
Pastor Emeritus: Irvin Stapf
Pastor: Vacant
Vicar: Chris Clarke
Liturgist:

*Twenty-First Sunday
after Pentecost*

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
October 18, 2026

During the music before the service let us join in a time of prayer and meditation as we prepare our hearts for worship.

*Please stand as you are able where marked****

Greetings and Announcements

Prelude

******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 declare unto you the entire forgiveness of 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:***

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Hymnal #160

*Praise , my soul, the King of heaven; To his feet thy tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, Who like me his praise should sing?
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.*

*Praise him for his grace and favor To our fathers in distress;
Praise him, still the same for ever, Slow to chide, and swift to bless;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness.*

*Father-like he tends and spares us, Well our feeble frame he knows;
In his hands he gently bears us, Rescues us from all our foes;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely as his mercy flows.*

*Angels, help us to adore him, Ye behold him face to face;
Sun and moon, bow down before him; Dwellers all in time and space;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.*

*****Psalm: Psalm 96:1-9 (read responsively)**

Liturgist: Sing to the Lord a new song;

People: sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Liturgist: Sing to the Lord, praise his name;

People: proclaim his salvation day after day.

Liturgist: Declare his glory among the nations,

People: his marvelous deeds among all peoples.

Liturgist: For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;

People: he is to be feared above all gods.

Liturgist: For all the gods of the nations are idols,

People: but the Lord made the heavens.

Liturgist: Splendor and majesty are before him,

People: strength and glory are in his sanctuary.

Liturgist: Ascribe to the Lord, O families of nations,

People: ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Liturgist: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name:

People: bring an offering and come into his courts.

Liturgist: Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness;

People: trouble before him, all the earth.

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

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

Liturgist: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: *Lord, have mercy upon us.*

Liturgist: Christ, have mercy upon us.

People: *Christ, have mercy upon us.*

Liturgist: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: *Lord, have mercy upon us.*

Liturgist: 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 Spirit, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen*

Collect:

Liturgist: The Lord be with you.

People: *And with thy spirit.*

Liturgist: Let us pray.

People: Grant, we beseech thee, merciful Lord, to thy faithful people pardon and peace, that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind; through thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

The Scripture Lessons:

First Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7

¹ Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him that gates may not be closed:

² “I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³ I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I name you, though you do not know me. ⁵ I am the LORD, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, ⁶ that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me;

I am the LORD, and there is no other. ⁷ I form light and create darkness; I make well-being and create calamity; I am the LORD, who does all these things.

Liturgist: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

² We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, ³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸ For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. ⁹ For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

Liturgist: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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

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

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

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 22:15-22

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle him in his words. ¹⁶ And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?” ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ And Jesus said to them, “Whose likeness and inscription is this?” ²¹ They said, “Caesar's.” Then he said to them, “Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.” ²² When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

Liturgist: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

Children's Sermon:

Jeane Flesch

Money



Pulpit Hymn:

Jesus, My Lord, My God, My All

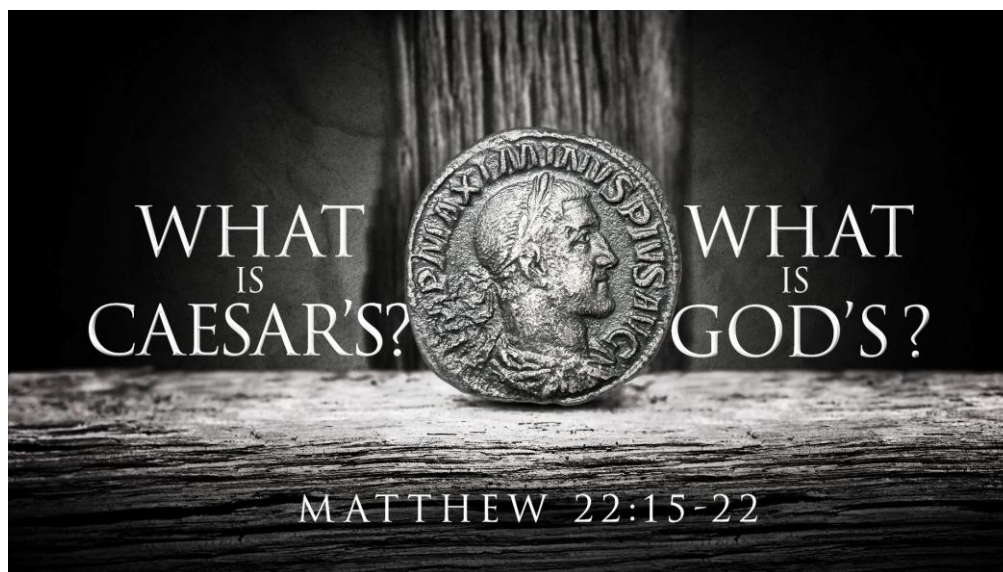
Hymnal #504

*Jesus, my Lord, my God, my all, Hear me, blest Saviour, when I call;
Hear me, and from thy dwelling place Pour down the riches of thy grace. (Chorus)*

**Jesus, my Lord, I thee adore,
O make me love thee more and more.**

*Jesus, too late I thee have sought; How can I love thee as I ought?
And how extol thy matchless fame, The glorious beauty of thy Name? (Chorus)*
*Jesus, what didst thou find in me That thou hast dealt so lovingly?
How great the joy that thou hast brought, So far exceeding hope or thought! (Chorus)*

*Jesus, of thee shall be my song, To thee my heart and soul belong;
All that I have or am is thine, And thou, blest Saviour, thou art mine. (Chorus)*



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.*

******Passing of the Peace***

******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 Spirit, 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 Spirit; 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)***

Liturgist: Lord in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

******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 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 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) *A-men, A-men, A----men.*

*****Closing Hymn:**

Praise Ye the Father

Hymn #421

*Praise ye the Father for his loving-kindness;
Tenderly cares he for his erring children;
Praise him ye angels, praise him in the heavens,
Praise ye Jehovah.*

*Praise ye the Saviour, great is his compassion;
Graciously cares he for his chosen people;
Young men and maidens, ye old men and children,
Praise ye the Saviour.*

*Praise ye the Spirit, Comforter of Israel,
Sent of the Father and the Son to bless us,
Praise ye the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Praise ye the Triune God.*

*****The Postlude**

Prayers and Praises:

For our church leaders:

Presiding Pastor: Rev. Dr. Carey G. Larson
Assistant Presiding Pastor: Rev. Roger Twito
AALC Administrator: Rev. Dean Stoner
Secretary Pastor: Rev. Joe Marsh
Home Mission Developer: Rev. Joe Christina
National Office Manager: Bonnie Ohlrich
Seminary President: Rev. Dr. Jordan Cooper
Seminary Administrator: Duane Kleven

Robin Nicholson	Hope Johnston	Dorothy Foster	Rev. Joe Christina
Rebecca Robinson	Bill Trall	Harvey Jester	Justin Serene
Fred Carlson	Norita Shipley	Jimmy Beall	The Shriver family
Ben Flynn	Carolyn Kelly	The Gray family	Paul Beall
Sharon Fraley	The Stapf family	The Fry family	

For those that have suffered loss due to hurricanes, fires, and other natural disasters

For the President and the leaders of our nation

For those in the armed Services: Grace Gorevin, Zach Gorevin, Christopher Clarke,

Bethany Hueter, Ethan Stone, Wendy Ahern, Kris Johnson

For our Seminary Students: Chris Clarke, Kris Johnson

For a Region congregation: Pastor Jamie Strickler, St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Charleston, WV

For our missionary work: CLC Blanket Ministry

For those being persecuted for their faith in Christ

For the congregations of our Germantown/Clarksburg/Damascus community: Wesley Grove UMC

For the congregations of the American Association of Lutheran Churches

For our college students: Maddie Day, Jude Stapf, Paul Stapf, Jenna Perini, Gianna Clarke

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Men's Bible Study: Monday – 11 AM at Church in the Adult Sunday School room.**
- **Women's Bible Study: Wednesday – 10 AM at Church in the Adult Sunday School room.**
- **Adult and Children's Sunday – Sunday morning at 9:30 AM**
- **You may continue to watch the Sunday services (10:30 AM) via Livestream on Facebook – Christ Lutheran Church AALC. The Bulletins for the services are on our website: clcmd.org or 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.**
- **We are collecting soups, canned or dried, for Damascus HELP during the month of October. There is a collection bin in the Narthex.**
- **Church Council will meet next Sunday, October 25th after services. Please submit you reports to Carrie by Tuesday, October 20th.**