



SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 1ST, 2024
15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



OUR MISSION: God calls us to live and share the amazing love and grace of Jesus Christ with all people.

Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church. Christ Lutheran Church is a *Reconciling in Christ* congregation that welcomes all. May God bless us in Word and Sacrament, music and community in our worship today. The service is complete in this bulletin. The spoken responses are **bolded text**.

We acknowledge that our building of worship is built upon the territory of xučyun (Huichin), the unceded land stewarded by the Ohlone people who speak to their Creator and loved ones in the language of Chochenyo.

INTRODUCTION

Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God’s law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us “the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life” (John 6:63). Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We who were washed in the word when we were born in the font return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CONFESSION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have honored you with our lips,
but have harmed our neighbors with our**

tongues.

**The cravings at war within us
cause conflicts and disputes.**

**In our desire to be first
we make distinctions among ourselves.**

**We place the needs of the poor and the
suffering last.**

**In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.
Draw near to us with grace in time of need,
and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus
Christ,
our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

PROCLAMATION OF FORGIVENESS

GATHERING HYMN — ELW 599: *Lord Jesus, Think On Me*

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Lord Jesus, Think On Me". It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a bass clef staff. The lyrics are written below the treble clef staff. The first system contains four lines of lyrics, and the second system contains three lines. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with a mix of quarter and eighth notes.

1 Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin;
2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, by anx - ious thoughts op - pressed;
3 Lord Je - sus, think on me, nor let me go a - stray;
4 Lord Je - sus, think on me, that, when the flood is past,
from self - ish pas - sions set me free and make me pure with - in.
let me your lov - ing ser - vant be and taste your prom - ised rest.
through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty point out your cho - sen way.
I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see and share your joy at last.

REETING

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

O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING— DEUTERONOMY 4:1-2, 6-9

Now, Israel, hear the statutes and decrees which I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live, and may enter in and take possession of the land which the Almighty, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. In your observance of the commandments of the Almighty, your God, you must not add to nor subtract from that which I am giving to you. Observe them carefully, and demonstrate your wisdom and intelligence to the nations, who will hear of these statutes and say, “Surely this is a wise and intelligent people!” For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Almighty is to us when we call? Or what great nation has statutes and decrees

that are as just as this whole Law that I set before you today? Take care and be diligent in guarding yourselves, that you do not to forget those things which your own eyes have seen. Do not forget them as long as you live, and teach them to your children and your children's children.

“Word of God, Word of Life.” **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 15

O LORD, who may abide in Your tent? Who may dwell on Your holy hill? O LORD, Who may abide in Your tent? Who may dwell on Your holy hill?

1. He who walks with integrity All his works are righteousness Who
 2. He who loves all his neighbors well Does no wrong unto his friends Who
 3. He who swears unto his own hurt And who never takes a bribe He's

speaks the truth deep within his heart Does not slander with his lips
 hon - ors all those who fear the LORD But the wicked he con - demns
 hon - est in ev - 'ry - thing he does Nev - er moves or turns a - side

SECOND READING— JAMES 1:17-27

Every worthwhile gift, every genuine benefit comes from above, descending from the Creator of the heavenly luminaries, who cannot change and is never in shadow. God willingly gave birth to us with a word spoken in truth, so that we may be, as it were, the first fruits of God's creatures. Remember this, my dear siblings: be quick to listen, but slow to speak and slow to anger; for God's justice is never served by our anger. So do away with all your filth and the last vestiges of wickedness in you. Humbly welcome the word which has been planted in you, because it has power to save you. But act on this word—because if all you do is listen to it, you're deceiving yourselves. Those who listen to God's word but don't put it into practice are like those who look into mirrors at their own faces; they look at themselves, then go off and

promptly forget what they looked like. But those who look steadily at the perfect law of freedom and make it their habit—not listening and then forgetting, but actively putting it into practice—will be blessed in all that they do. If those who don’t control their tongues imagine that they are devout, they’re deceiving themselves and their worship is pointless. Pure, unspoiled religion, in the eyes of our loving God, is this: coming to the aid of widows and orphans when they are in need, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by this world. “Word of God, Word of Life.” **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL— MARK 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

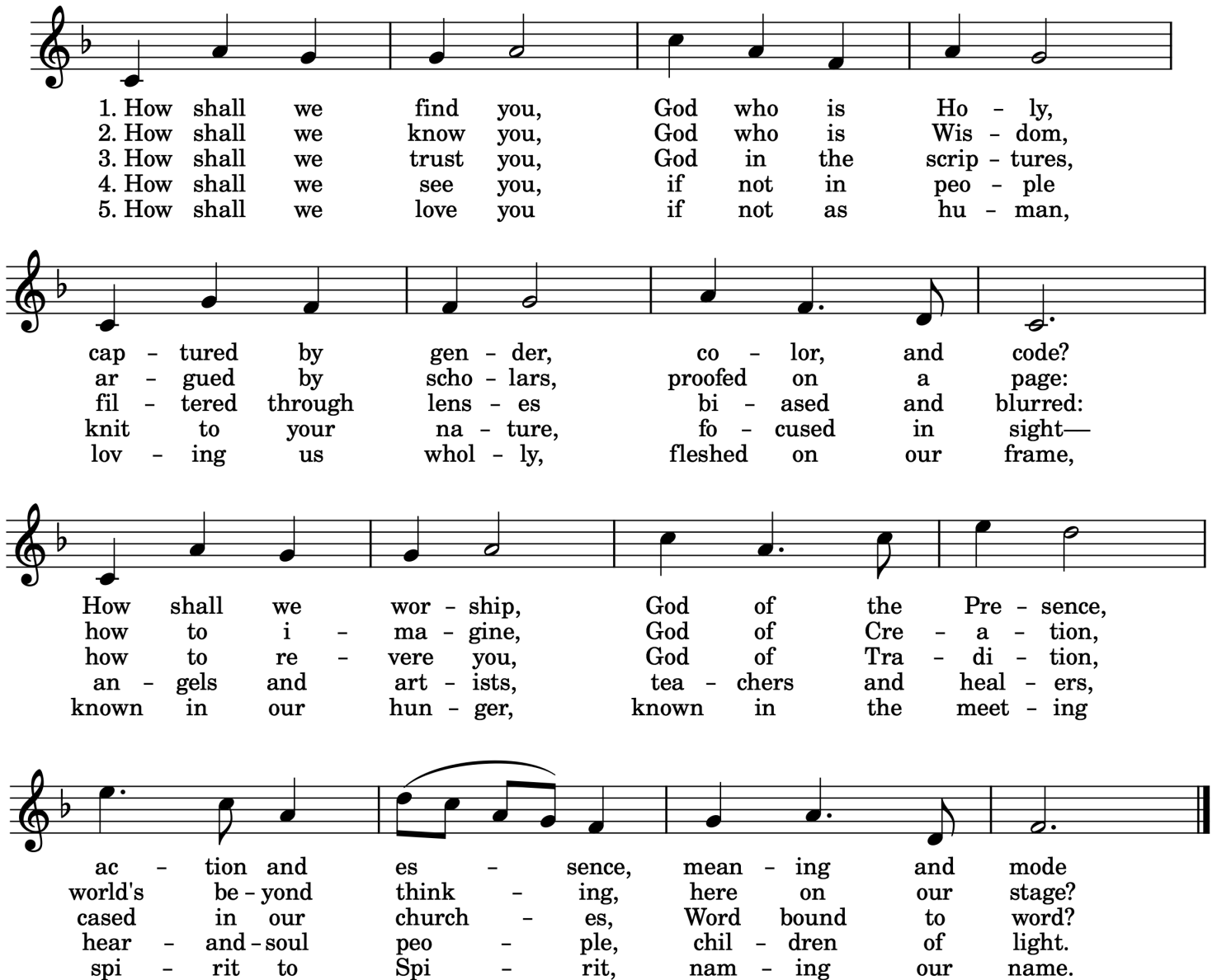
The Gospel according to... **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Pharisees and some of the religious scholars who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus. They had noticed that some of the disciples were eating with unclean hands—that is, without ritually washing them. For the Pharisees, and Jewish people in general, follow the tradition of their ancestors and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow. Moreover, they never eat anything from the market without first sprinkling it. There are many other traditions which have been handed down to them, such as the washing of cups and pots and dishes. So, these Pharisees and religious scholars asked Jesus, “Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of our ancestors, but eat their food with unclean hands?” Jesus answered, “How accurately Isaiah prophesied about you hypocrites when he wrote, ‘These people honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me. The worship they offer me is worthless; the doctrines they teach are only human precepts.’ You disregard God’s commandments and cling to human traditions.” Jesus summoned the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and try to understand. Nothing that enters us from the outside makes us impure; it is what comes out of us that makes us impure. For it is from within—from our hearts—that evil intentions emerge: promiscuity, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, obscenity, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. All these evils come from within and make us impure.”

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

SERMON— MC MILLER

HYMN OF THE DAY— *How Shall We Find You, God who is Holy*



1. How shall we find you, God who is Ho - ly,
2. How shall we know you, God who is Wis - dom,
3. How shall we trust you, God in the scrip - tures,
4. How shall we see you, if not in peo - ple
5. How shall we love you if not as hu - man,

cap - tured by gen - der, co - lor, and code?
ar - gued by scho - lars, proofed on a page:
fil - tered through lens - es bi - ased and blurred:
knit to your na - ture, fo - cused in sight—
lov - ing us whol - ly, fleshed on our frame,

How shall we wor - ship, God of the Pre - sence,
how to i - ma - gine, God of Cre - a - tion,
how to re - vere you, God of Tra - di - tion,
an - gels and art - ists, tea - chers and heal - ers,
known in our hun - ger, known in the meet - ing

ac - tion and es - sence, mean - ing and mode
world's be - yond think - ing, here on our stage?
cased in our church - es, Word bound to word?
hear - and - soul peo - ple, chil - dren of light.
spi - rit to Spi - rit, nam - ing our name.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

God of every generation, give the church a sense of purpose and belonging. Sustain and build up leaders and lay people as we accompany one another in our life with Christ. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of creation, you named humans as co-creators with you. Where the earth cries out in pain, bring wholeness. Guide governments and industry, that environmental laws and practices seek to heal and not harm. Bring relief and justice to people and places suffering from climate catastrophe. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Sovereign God, we pray for local communities of every kind: rural and urban; established and new. Lead those in authority to seek the good of all through their words and actions and to mentor others in honest and generous ways. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Healing God, you draw near to all who are hurting. Be with all who desire relief from chronic and acute illness, cancer, and post-traumatic stress disorder. Strengthen health care workers, therapists, and caregivers. Tend to those who are close to our hearts especially Karen, Julie, Sandy, Fred, George G., Maryann H., Evie D., the family and friends of Michael H., the family and friends of Carol F, and the family and friends of Rev Marty Schaefer. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

On this Labor Day weekend we remember and give thanks for all who have fought for workers' rights around the world. Continue to improve working conditions and establish fair wages so that all people may thrive. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

What else do the people of God pray for?

Comforting God, console us as we mourn our departed. We hold fast to the promise that death has been defeated by our Savior Jesus Christ. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

MEAL

Those worshipping online who wish to join in communion are invited to prepare elements at this time.

For those in person—The white juice in the center rim is non-alcoholic, the red on the outside is wine.

Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

OFFERING

For nearly two thousand years, churches across the globe have collected a weekly offering for God's work in the world. In addition to paying our staff and utilities, these monies also go toward feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, caring for the ill, and natural disaster work, in partnership with Lutherans around the world.

OFFERTORY MUSIC— ELW 531: *The Feast is Ready to Begin*

The trumpets sound, the angels sing
The feast is ready to begin
The gates of heaven are open wide
And Jesus welcomes you inside

Tables are laden with good things
O taste the peace and joy he brings
He'll fill you up with love divine
He'll turn your water into wine

REFRAIN

REFRAIN

*Sing with thankfulness songs of pure delight
Come and revel in heaven's love and light
Take your place at the table of the King
The feast is ready to begin
The feast is ready to begin*

The hungry heart he satisfies
Offers the poor his paradise
Now hear all heaven and earth applaud
The amazing goodness of the Lord

REFRAIN

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

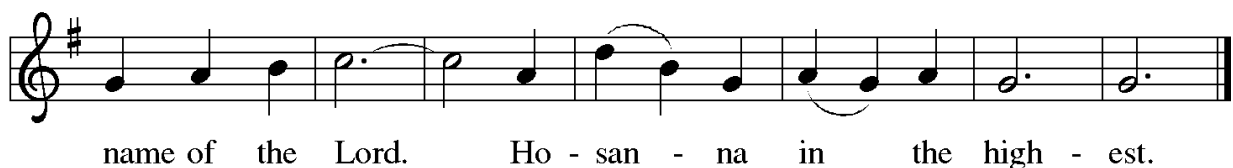
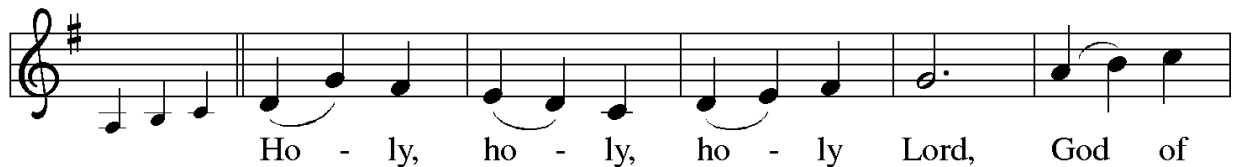
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

SANCTUS



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

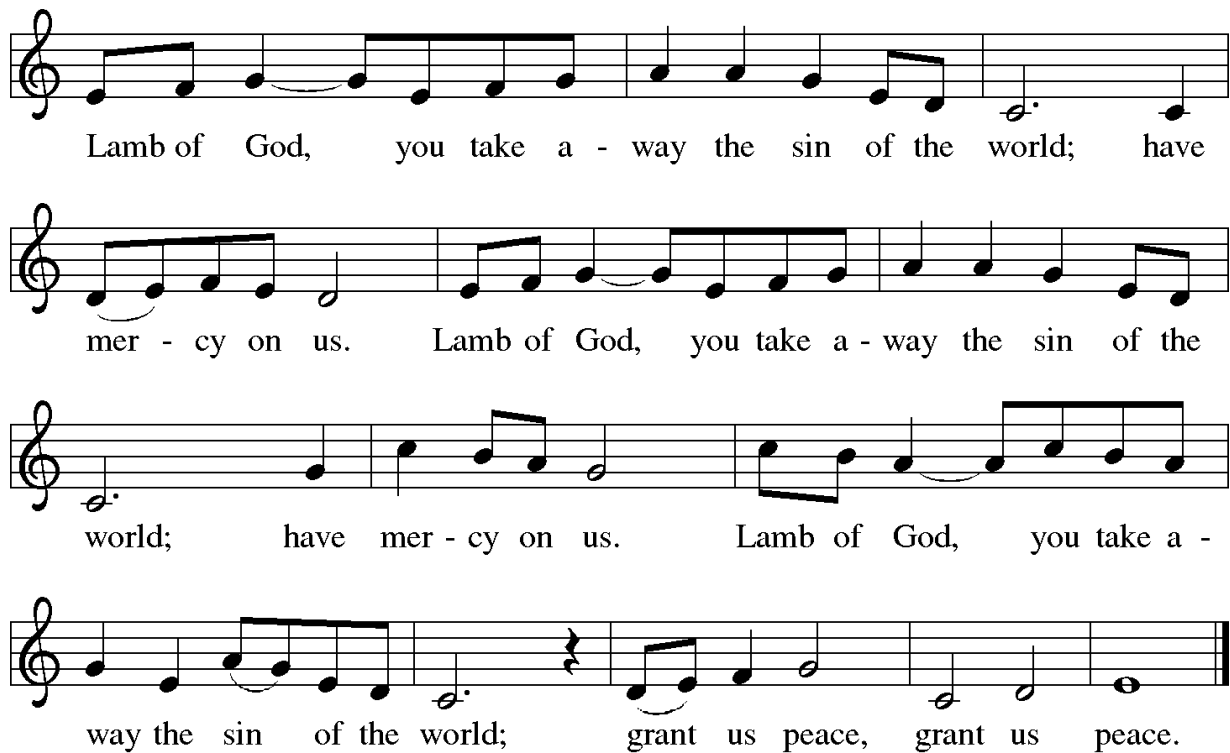
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes you to this table, Come, here is your God.

AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN— *Christ in Me Arise*

REFRAIN

Christ in me a - rise and dis - pel all the dark-ness. Christ in me a - rise with your

pow - er and your strength. Christ in me pour out your — bless - ing and heal - ing. to Coda ⊕

Christ in me a - rise and I shall rise with you. 1, 2 to Verses 3 to Bridge

- 1. Be now my vi - sion; o - pen these eyes, show - ing me all that I must see.
- 2. Be now my foot - steps, lead - ing the way, tak - ing me where — I must go.

REFRAIN

1, 2. On - ward to the king - dom, you are the way. A - rise in me and I shall rise with you.

BRIDGE

You know my heart — and you know my ways, you who formed me in my moth - er's

womb. I live and move in you, my whole be - ing thrives in you. — D.S. al Coda

CODA

Christ in me a - rise, Christ in me a - rise, Christ in me a - rise and

I shall rise with you. —

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Announcements

BLESSING

God all mighty, God most merciful ✠ bless you, keep you, and give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN— ELW 801: *Change My Heart, O God*
Congregation join on second time

Change my heart, O God;
make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God;
may I be like you.

You are the potter;
I am the clay.

Mold me and make me;
this is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God;
make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God;
may I be like you.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR:

Julie D.	Orlando G.	Maryann H.	Evie D.	George & Cindy F.
Mike and Liz S.	Karen H.	Heidi	Dee	Ken R.& Lysle P.
Chad B.	Laurie P.	Jan	Anna	Family and friends of Michael H.
TJ Baar	Fred	Roz	Brook	Family and friends of Carol F.
The Vale Community	Molly B.	Pat	Jerome S.	Family and friends of Rev. Marty Schaefer
Robin & Wendy	Mark M.	Duwayne	Barbara LM	
Sandy Z.	George G.	Joan	Robin	
Carolina S.	Philip Y.	Pastor Doris Ng	Will K.	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Save the Date: Sept 8th– God’s Work, Our Hands

Save the Date: Sept 14th– 2pm Pastor Ron’s Installation.

PARTICIPATING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Ministers: The Congregation

Presiding/Preaching: MC Miller

Minister of Music: Daniel Alley

Guitarists: George Fosselius & Randy Mayer

Lector: Christine Hult-Lewis

Coffee Hour:

Usher:

Communion Set-up/Clean-up:

Worship Assistant:

Flowers: Carol Keyhoe in honor of the Sr.
Center volunteers

HAPPENING THIS WEEK AT CLC

Sunday

10:00AM CLC Worship

12:00PM Good Table Worship

Monday

9:00-3:00 Senior Center

6:00-9:00 PM Irma's De Chico

Tuesday

7:00 PM Lady AA Meeting

Thursday

6:00 PM GRIP Sandwich Making

Saturday

6:00 PM Millenium AA Meeting

PASTOR RON’S OFF WEEKS:

August 25th-Sept 1st

September 16th-29th

October 21st-27th

Nov 11th-24th

DON’T FORGET YOUR OFFERING

Thank you for your continued financial support of Christ Lutheran. It is very much appreciated. Options for giving include bringing offerings in person, mailing checks, or giving electronically with Tithely. For the latter, simply click the “Giving” tab on the church website. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Amy Tieku at 510-290-2125

WORSHIP FROM HOME!

Join us and invite friends and neighbors to our Sunday worship service!

Facebook Livestream: Every Sunday morning there will be a video livestream of worship available on our church [Facebook](#).

Online Bulletins: Bulletins for each worship service are available online every week. To download a copy, go to the church website and visit our [Bulletins page](#).