

Sunday - July 19, 2026
8th 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

It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.

PRELUDE: Elsa-Jennie Bliss

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.** Let us confess our sin to God.

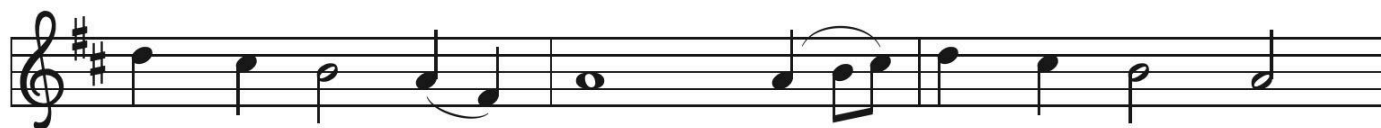
Compassionate God, **we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

GATHERING- ACS 952: The Reign of God, like Farmer's Field



1 The reign of God, like farm - er's field, bears
2 The reign of God is like a pearl on
3 Though hid - den now, the reign of God may,
4 Like mus - tard tree, the reign of God from
5 The reign of God is come in Christ; the



weeds a - long with wheat; the good and bad are
bar - ren land con - cealed. If once you find that
yet un - no - ticed, grow; from deep with - in it
ti - ny seed will spread, till birds of ev - 'ry
reign of God is near. A - blaze a - mong us,



in - ter - twined till har - vest is com - plete.
pre - cious pearl, go out and buy that field.
ris - es up, like yeast in swell - ing dough.
feath - er come to nest, and there be fed.
kin - dling hearts, the reign of God is here!

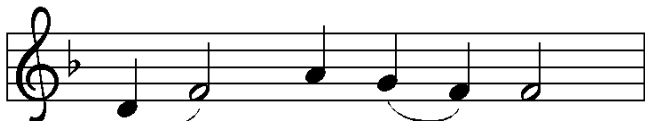
KYRIE

*In peace, let us pray to the
Lord.*



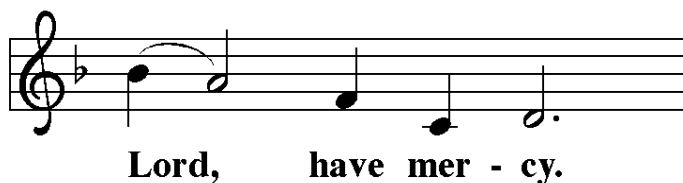
Lord, have mer - cy.

*For the peace from above,
and for our salvation, let us
pray to the Lord.*



Lord, have mer - cy.

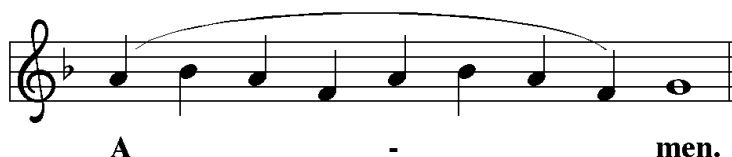
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



GLORIA

Refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace
to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the
high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa-ther,
we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace
to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the
high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:
have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right
hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Refrain

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace
to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the
high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.

Final refrain

Glo - ry to God in the high - est.

A - men, a - men.

FIRST READING: Genesis 28:10-19a

10 Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. 11 He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. 12 And he dreamed that there was a stairway set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. 13 And the LORD stood beside him and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring, 14 and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. 15 Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go and will bring you back to this land, for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." 16 Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!" 17 And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

18 So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. 19a He called that place Bethel.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 139

1.LORD, you read my ve - ry heart, you who know the least thing.
2.If to hea - ven I would fly, you would be be - side me.
3.In the se - cret of the womb, I was formed and mold - ed,
4.High and won - drous are Your thoughts, vast be yond all tel - ling.

5
you who see me from a - far, sleep - ing or a - ris - ing.
If in She - ol I would lie, e - ven there you'd find me.
by your skill - ful hand a - lone won - der ful ly wov - en.
If I count them they grow more, I can nev - er grasp them.

9
LORD, be - fore me and be - hind, in - fin - ite and age - less, such a know - ledge
If I fled on mor - ning wings, far be - yond the grey sea, e - ven there your
You have num - bered all my days, long be fore you gave them. In the pa ges
Search me, God, and know my heart, let e vil nev - er find me. Lead me on your

14
is too high, I can - not at - tain it.
hand would lead, your right hand would guide me.
of your book they have all been writ - ten.
right - eous path, sure and ev - er - last - ing.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:12-25

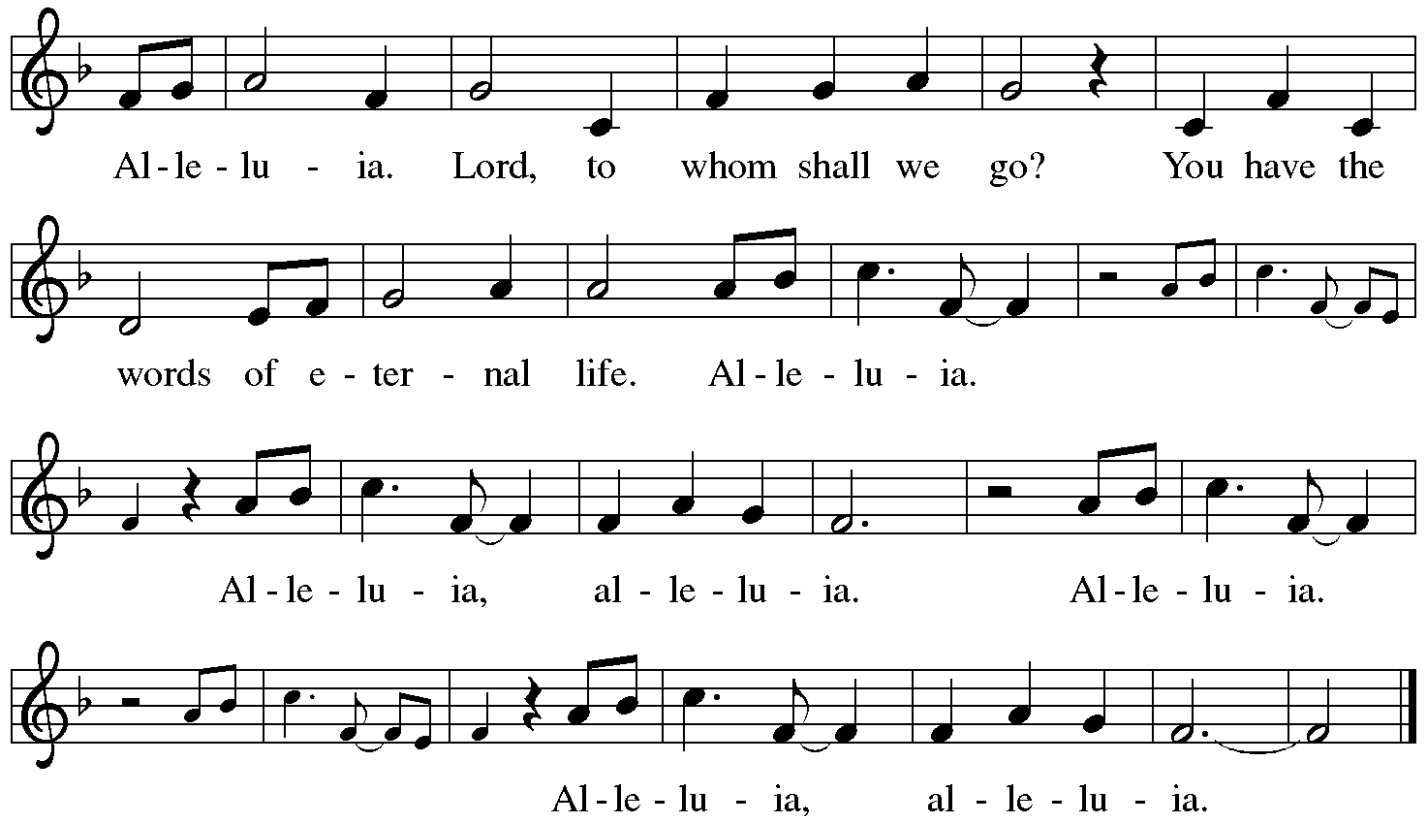
12 So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—13 for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. 15 For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” 16 it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

18 I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. 19 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, 20 for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope

21 that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. 22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, 23 and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. 24 For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? 25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O God.**

24 [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, 25 but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. 26 So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. 27 And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' 28 He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' 29 But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. 30 Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the

reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' ”

36 Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” 37 He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; 38 the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, 39 and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. 40 Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. 41 The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, 42 and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 43 Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

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

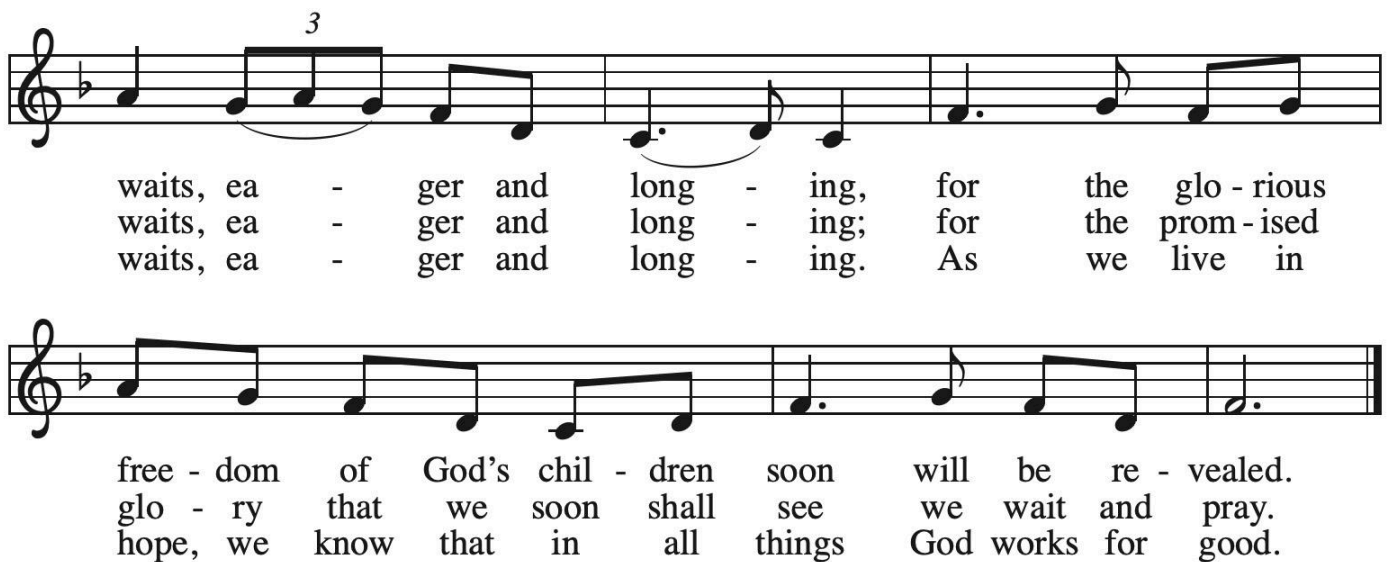
SERMON - MC Miller

HYMN OF THE DAY- ACS 1072: Abba, Abba, Hear Us

1 “Ab - ba, Ab - ba, hear us,” we cry; God’s Spir - it
 2 With the whole cre - a - tion we cry, groan as in
 3 As we pray, the Spir - it breathes sighs, sighs far too

cries in us, names us a - dopt - ed and be - lov - ed
 child - birth. Soon all sin, all death’s de - cay will be no
 deep for words; God, who search - es hearts and knows the Spir - it’s

heirs, the heirs of God. All cre - a - tion
 more; we shall be free. All cre - a - tion
 mind, hears all our prayer. All cre - a - tion



waits, ea - ger and long - ing, for the glo - rious
 waits, ea - ger and long - ing; for the prom - ised
 waits, ea - ger and long - ing. As we live in
 free - dom of God's chil - dren soon will be re - vealed.
 glo - ry that we soon shall see we wait and pray.
 hope, we know that in all things God works for good.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

God our source, protect your church from those who sow weeds among the wheat. Where we trade grace for judgment, restore us, and where we get lost among the complexities of life, guide us. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God our creator, sustain creation in places not easily seen; the depths of oceans, microscopic plants and animals, galaxies beyond our own. May we share earth's dedication to hope for what we do not yet see. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God our soil, we yearn to live on your lands and waters with justice and in righteousness. Renew the hearts of all in authority, that our leaders guide wisely toward the flourishing of all. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God our rock, be a source of constancy for those whose lives have been uprooted by war, eviction, global climate change, unemployment, harassment, false witness to their character, or illness or injury. We pray especially for Karen, Fred, George G., Maryann H., Evie D., Diane, Carla, Laurie & John P., Scott F., Kim M., Christine H.L., and the family and friends of Julie D. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God our teacher, guide and provide for all summer camp staff and campers, daycare professionals, librarians, summer school educators and coaches, teachers preparing for the coming academic year, and youth becoming first-time babysitters. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

What else do the people of God pray for?

God our hope, the message of your salvation is planted among us in all times and places. We give you thanks for the witness of all the saints who shine like the sun in your presence. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

OFFERTORY- We are Climbing Jacob's Ladder

We are climbing Jacob's ladder (3x)

We are climbing on!

2) Ev'ry round goes higher and higher...

3) If I stumble will you help me?

4) Though the road is steep and rugged...

5) Each day brings me one round higher...

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD AND BLESSING

Presider: Gracious Jesus, You are present with your people in every time and place. You come to us with healing in your touch, cleansing waters and life-giving Word. You restore us in body, mind, and spirit, and awaken in us hearts of thankfulness and praise.

All: Be with us, Lord.

Presider: Always your Spirit gathers us and nourishes us with grace. You draw us together as one body in your love. Make your home within our hearts and kindle faith that bears good fruit.

All: Dwell within us, Lord.

Presider: Strengthen us to be your body in the world, serving with compassion, forgiving as we have been forgiven, loving as have first loved us.

All: Send us, Lord.

Presider:

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.

SENDING HYMN- I Want To Be Ready

I want to be rea - dy when Je - sus comes.

I want to be rea - dy when Je - sus comes.

One day the Lord's gon-na crack the sky, and the dead in Christ shall rise.

I want to be rea - dy when Je - sus comes.

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meet & greet with Pr. Kyle after worship today
Aug 2- Julie Dienstein Celebration of life

<u>Participating in Worship</u> Presiding/Preaching: MC Miller Minister of Music: Daniel Alley Guitarists: George Fosselius & Randy Mayer Lector: Dee A. Communion Set-up/Clean-up: Worship Assistant: Flowers: Rohrbachs Coffee Hour: Carla, Laurie, Lysle	<u>Happening This Week at CLC</u> Today 9 AM Choir Rehearsal 10 AM CLC Worship Meet & Greet w/ Pr. Kyle Monday 9 AM- 3:00 PM Senior Center 7 PM- 8:30 PM The Scouts Tuesday 7 PM Lady AA Meeting Saturday 6 PM Millennium AA Meeting Next Sunday 9AM Choir Rehearsal 10 AM CLC Worship
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PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR:

Diane L. Lysle P. Mike S. The Vale Community Robin & Wendy George F. Louise O., Lucas, and El Cerrito High School Jimmy D. Vince	Laurie P. Carolina S. Karen H. Fred W. Chad B. TJ B. Carla L. Mark Thelma & Mike G.	Chris Phil C. Scott F. Kim M. Christine H.L. The family and friends of Julie Dienstein
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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

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