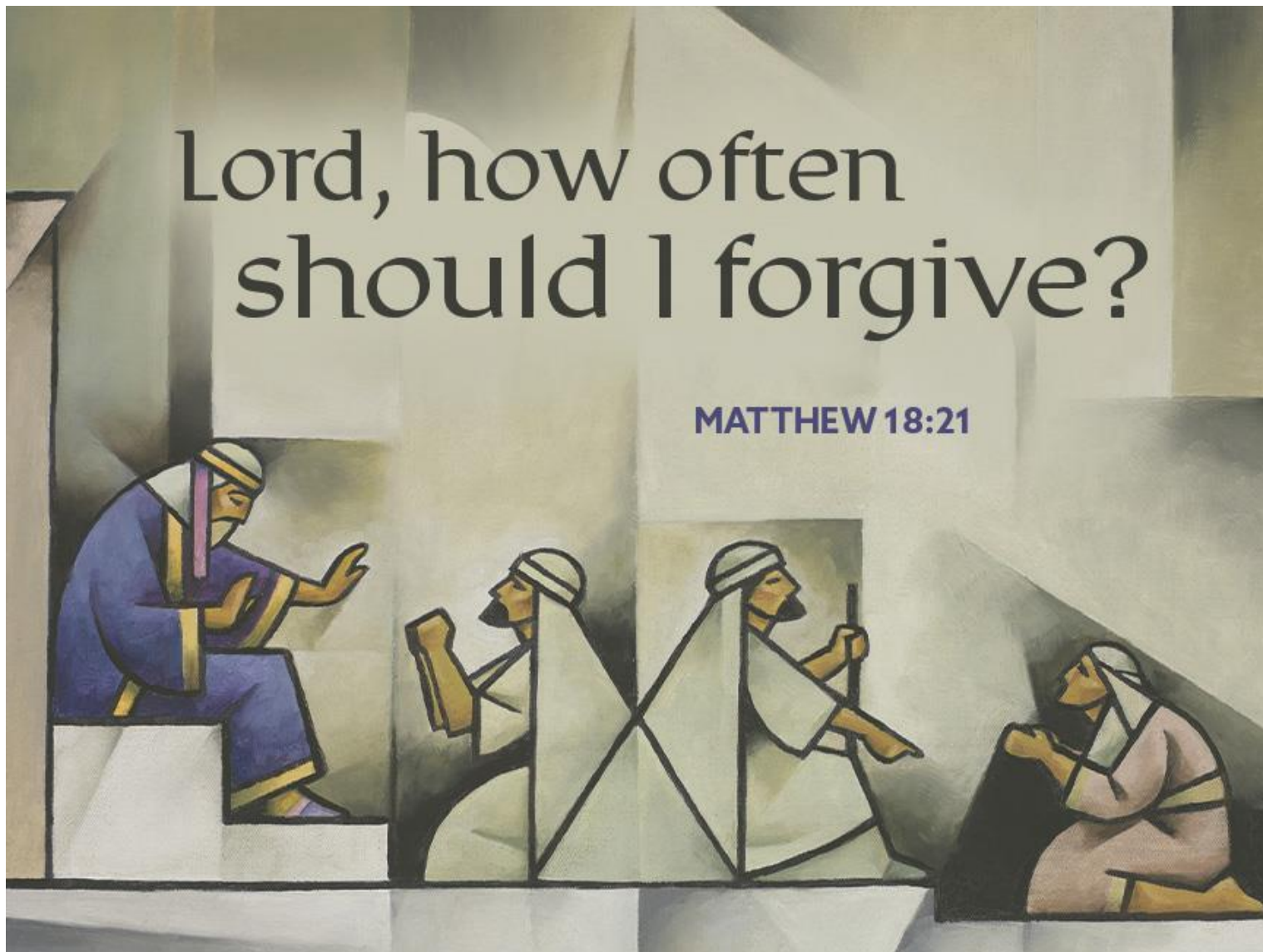


Christ Lutheran Church
115 Church Street, Duncannon, PA 17020
717.834.3140
Pastor Jennifer Toburen
Organist – Joe Abate
www.clcduncannon.org

Lord, how often
should I forgive?

MATTHEW 18:21



Sunday, September 13, 2026
The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

God's Work, Our Hands Sunday

Prelude

Announcements

Congregation please stand

OPENING/CALL TO WORSHIP

We are called to proclaim the good news:
God is at work!

This good news is not left in some history long ago or a place far away:
God is at work in the world still today!

In us and through us, God is glorified in our work. When we offer a helping hand, God is praised.
When we share of our abundance, God is known in the world.
God is at work in us!

In our service today, and in our daily lives, let us live out what God has called us to in baptism.
God is at work through our hands!

PREPARING

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

**Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.**

Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

**Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

Hear this good news:

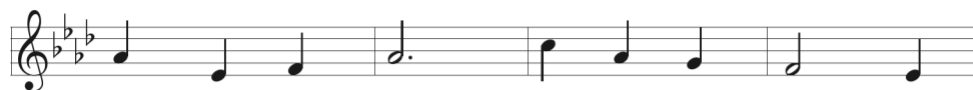
We have peace with God through ✝ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.

Gathering Hymn

“God’s Work, Our Hands”

God's Work, Our Hands



1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,
 2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,
 3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,
 4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,
 fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,
 prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,
 seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,
 walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,
 pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,
 Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.
 run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.
 claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.
 gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
 Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,
 Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
 Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your Gos - pel.

Text: Wayne L. Wold

Music: EARTH AND ALL STARS, David N. Johnson

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APOSTOLIC GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

C And also with you.

Kyrie

Congregation will sing all of the Kyrie in unison.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Hymn of Praise



1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
 2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
 3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
 yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
 yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
 Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
 Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

Prayer of the Day

God our source and our salvation, in love you made us and by love you have redeemed us. Make your love for us bear fruit in our forgiveness of others, that in this life we may know your all-embracing compassion, and in the world to come receive the everlasting joy of fellowship you share with your Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

WORD

First Reading

Genesis 50: 15-21

¹⁵ Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹ So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Word of God, Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Romans 14: 1-12

¹ Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶ Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷ For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.

⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰ Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? 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 be held accountable.

Word of God, Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Congregation please stand

Gospel Acclamation

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

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

Repeat alleluia

The holy gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 18: 21-35

²¹ Peter came and said to [Jesus,] “Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²² Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

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 began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.

³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Jennifer

Hymn of the Day

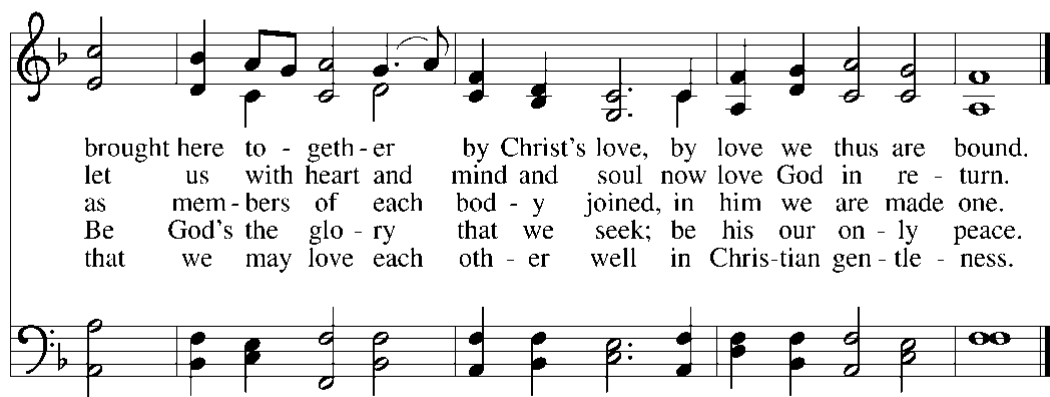
“Where Charity and Love Prevail”

ELW 359

Where Charity and Love Prevail



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
 2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
 3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
 5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
 let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
 as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
 Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
 that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

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Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Sign of Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Prayers of Intercession

Gathered into God's embrace, let us lift our voices on behalf of a weary and wounded world.

God of love, send us out filled with your love and life. Be known in our daily living, that your love may be known through our proclamation.....God, we pray,

C Open our hands in love.

God of creation, remind us to be good stewards of your diverse and beautiful world...God, we pray,

C Open our hands in love.

God of peace, fill the hearts of those who rule, govern and lead. Give them and us compassion to guide the peoples of this world in the ways of truth, justice, equity and peace.....God, we pray,
C Open our hands in love.

God of healing, visit those who yearn for your wholeness, especially those whose names and needs we lift up now: Shirley, Allan, Charlotte, Jack, Cathy, Roxy, Karen, Darlene, Chuck, Jessie, Helen, Millie, Peggy, Glenn, Carol, Marian, John, Donna and Sandy. Encourage all those who bear another's burdens. Give wisdom and perseverance to all who work in health care professions.....God, we pray,
C Open our hands in love.

God of service, give us strength and humility. In our service to those near and far, whose needs are visible or invisible, may we find you in the faces of our neighbors.....God, we pray,
C Open our hands in love.

Everlasting God, support us in this life. As we remember those who have gone before as examples of faithful living and honor those whose faith was known only to you, inspire us to follow their example of baptismal life until we join with them in worship.....God, we pray,
C Open our hands in love.

Into your wounded hands of love, O God, we place all our prayers, trusting in your mercy through the crucified and risen one, Jesus.
Amen.

Stewardship Snippet: “God’s Work, Our Hands” is the ELCA’s annual day of service taking place today. It is an opportunity for all our congregations to celebrate who we are as a church as we engage in projects that explore our convictions as Lutherans: that all life in Jesus flows from a living, daring confidence in God’s grace. We are freed in Christ to love and serve our neighbors everyday.

Lector - We will now worship God with our offering.

Offertory

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
 bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
 we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
 all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
 with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

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MEAL

P Let us pray,

**C Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you
C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts
C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and

God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Send your Spirit upon this meal,
the body and blood of Jesus,
that we overflow with your selfless love.
Turn us to face our neighbors,
that by us and through us your love may be known in the world.

All honor and praise and glory to you,
God of creative, dirty hands,
God of holy, wounded hands,
God who strengthens and guides our hands,
now and forever.

Amen.

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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,
forever and ever. Amen**

P So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a while; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who are wandering still.

Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

Amen.

Please be seated

Be Known to us, Lord Jesus

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

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

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

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

Holy Communion

Prepackaged communion is available for those who wish to remain in the pews.

COMMUNION HYMNS:

606, 599

Congregation please stand

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C Amen.



1 O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in heav'n-ly peace,
2 Then grant that I may fol - low your gleam, O glo - rious Light,



for I have seen the glo - ry of your re - deem - ing grace:
till earth-ly shad - ows scat - ter, and faith is changed to sight;



a light to lead the na - tions un - to your ho - ly hill,
till rap-tured saints shall gath - er up - on that shin-ing shore,



the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
where Christ, the bless-ed day - star, shall light them ev - er - more.

Post Communion Prayer

Holy Jesus, in this meal you have fed and nourished us to work in your beloved world.
Send us now, filled with yourself and strengthened by your Spirit
to live your love for others.

Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

P God who sets forth the law of love,
Jesus who fulfills the law for you,
and the Spirit through whom you are called to love,
+ bless you this day,
that you may be God's hands and heart and voice
at work in the world.

Dismissal

P Go in peace. You are God's hands at work in the world!.
Thanks be to God.

Sending Hymn

"To Be Your Presence"

ELW 546

To Be Your Presence



1 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here, to show com -
 2 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold, to feed the
 3 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest, to speak for
 4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your



pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer - cy
 poor and shel - ter home - less cold, to be your hands of jus - tice,
 all the bro - ken and op - pressed, to be your voice of hope, your
 peo - ple is our call and choice, and in this mis - sion we, the



ev - er near,
 right up - hold, al - le - lu - ia!
 love ex - pressed,
 church, re - joice,

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924

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P We at Christ Lutheran Church are

C God's called, Loved Children who serve.

P Go in Peace. The living Word dwells in you.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

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Prayer Concerns

Shirley Hoffman, Pat Reich, Elyse Brown, Allan Imler, Sylvia Webb & the Indian Mobile Mission, Join Hands, Loads of Love, Neighbor Helping Neighbor, Brian Proctor, Joanne Reisinger, Jackie Maguire, Jack Smith, Cathy Cavanaugh, Charlotte Dyer, Rachelle Gilcrease, Roxy Huss, Karen Ersoz, Darlene Johnson, Marian Hoffman, Ron & Nancy Moore, Chuck Hoffman, Helen Huss, Jessie Frye, Carol & Glenn Shumaker, Millie Bell, Lillian Kistler, Hope Kominek, Peggy Paden, Chris Hope, Velma Wittlinger, Lindsey Melnick, Judy Moore, Kristen Gaisior, Charlene McBride, Gay Weller, Frank Valentine, David Siegfried, Sr., John Hofer, Jesse Clouser and Family, Donna Clay, David Lozen, Jim & Vicki Smith, Brenda Malek, Sandy Hoover.

The Altar Flowers are Presented to the Glory of God

By Chuck & Carrie Hoffman

In honor of their sons Jody & Chuck, Jr.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lector/prayers – Ernie Meisel

Next Sunday – Pam Dobbs

Wine – Ann Fleisher

Next Sunday – Becky Yohe

Grape Juice – Cindy Brookhart

Next Sunday – Judy Swartz

Altar Guild – Ann Fleisher

Next Sunday – Clyde Tota

Counters – Kendra Masser & Joe Kistler

Next Sunday – Terry Kuhn, Velma Wittlinger

Ushers – Team 1

Allan Imler, Ann Fleisher, Brianne Chubb,

Adam Still, Clyde Tota

SUNDAY, September 13th, 2026

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

God's Work, Our Hands

Worship Service 11:00am – Holy Communion

Bible Study – 7pm - Zoom

MONDAY, September 14th, 2026TUESDAY, September 15th, 2026

Bible Study – 1pm – Zoom

WEDNESDAY, September 16th, 2026THURSDAY, September 17th, 2026

LWR Quilters – 1pm

FRIDAY, September 18th, 2026

Apple Dumpling Baking Day – 8am.

SATURDAY, September 19th, 2026

Pioneer Day at Clark's Ferry Tavern – 10am to 4pm.

CLC will be selling apple dumplings.

Birthday – Carol Shumaker

SUNDAY, September 20th13th, 2026

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Worship service – 11:00 am - Holy Communion

Worship & Music committee meeting after the service.

Bible Study – 7pm - Zoom

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Noisy Offering Reminder – Next week is Noisy Offering Sunday.

September Fundraiser - A fundraiser will be held at the Red Robin Restaurant (6560 Carlisle Pike, Mechanicsburg) on Tuesday, September 29th from 4-8pm. CLC will receive 20% of all food sales. The Selinsgrove and Carlisle locations are also participating in this event. **The back page of this bulletin is your coupon to get the discount or it can be found on the CLC Facebook page.**

Pioneer Day – Pioneer Day will be held at the Clark's Ferry Tavern on Saturday, September 19th from 10am to 4pm. CLC will be selling Apple Dumplings for \$5 a piece. Becky & Terry will also be selling their crochet items. If you have pre-ordered your apple dumplings, they will be available for pick up on Friday afternoon.

October Fundraiser – Marianna's Subs & Pizza. Orders due October 4th. Delivery will be October 12th.

September Meetings/Events

September 13 – God's Work, Our Hands – Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Liverpool.
 September 19 – Pioneer Day at Clark's Ferry Tavern. CLC will be selling apple dumplings.
 September 20 – Worship & Music committee meeting following worship.
 September 21 – Social Ministry committee meeting – 1pm @ Sue Masser's home.
 September 23 – CLC Book Club discussion – 7pm – Zoom.
 September 29 – Red Robin Fundraiser – 4-8pm.

October Meetings/Events

October 4 – Marianna's sub/pizza orders due.
 October 5 – Finance committee meeting – 7pm – Zoom.
 October 8 – Church Council meeting – 6:30pm.
 October 12 – Indigenous People Prayer service
 October 18 – Newsletter deadline.
 October 25 – Reformation Day Potluck Dinner following worship.
 October 27 – Community Outreach committee meeting – 7pm – Zoom.
 October 31 – Duncannon Treat or Treat – 6 to 8pm.

Pastor Jenn will be offering a five-week study session to review and discuss the ELCA Social Statement: Human Sexuality - Gift and Trust. The ELCA is currently engaged in a discernment period on possible changes to the statement and seeks feedback from church members like us. A study guide will be provided. We will meet on Wednesdays from 6:00 - 8:00, beginning on September 30.

September 30 @ Christ Lutheran

October 7 @ Mt. Zion

October 14 @ Christ Lutheran

October 21 @ Mt. Zion

October 28 @ Christ Lutheran

If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to Pastor Jenn.

GOSPEL MESSAGE

September 13, 2026

LECTIONARY 24

Forgiven and Freed

Today's gospel reading is all about forgiveness. In the complex web of human relationships, forgiveness often feels messy. We may not understand it, and it may at times feel entirely out of reach. Yet, as Christians, we are called to wrestle with the promise that even when forgiveness feels impossible, there is room for us and for others in the wideness of God's mercy. How do we make sense of this?

We might begin by experiencing God's forgiveness ourselves. Many worshiping communities begin the service with a time of confession and forgiveness. Together we name out loud the ways we have failed to love God and neighbor, the ways we have failed to recognize ourselves or one another as beloved children of God. We name how we have been complacent in systems of injustice, how we have harmed one another directly, and the hurtful things we don't even know we've done.

This practice may seem deeply unsettling; after all, where else do we greet each other with a list of all the things we've done wrong? But confession is also freeing. It gives us permission to stop pretending we have it all together. It allows us to shed the weight of our mistakes and lay down our burdens so our hands and hearts are ready to receive God's mercy.

And then, week after week, we hear God's words of forgiveness for us and for our neighbors. We are reminded that there is always and forever enough of God's grace and forgiveness to go around. The public declaration of our forgiveness frees us to enter into the rest of our worship service with open and grateful hearts. And then God's forgiveness sends us out in the world to practice the hard work of forgiving others and receiving their forgiveness in turn, knowing that God will meet us again and again with mercy and grace.