



**Community of Christ Lutheran Church**  
**25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, November 19, 2023**  
**8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.**  
**Pastor Steve Bond**



**THE GATHERING**

**Welcome**

Pastor Steve Bond

**Musical Prelude**

“God of Grace” by Paul Manz

Eric Dickey

**WE REMEMBER OUR BAPTISM**

“Confession and Forgiveness”

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved. **Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**Holy One, we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.**

Beloved, we are God’s children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.

Through ✝ Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world. **Amen.**

**Hymn**

“Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory”

**ELW 890**

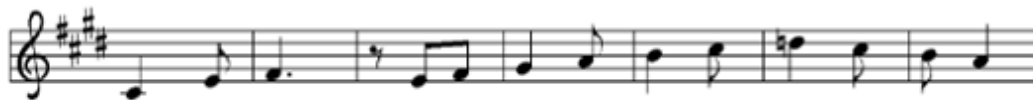
**Greeting**

**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.**

*Refrain*



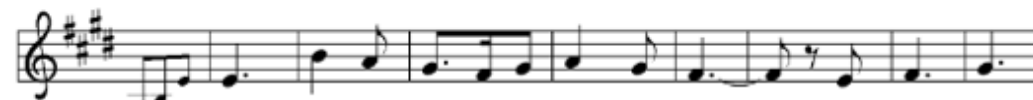
Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



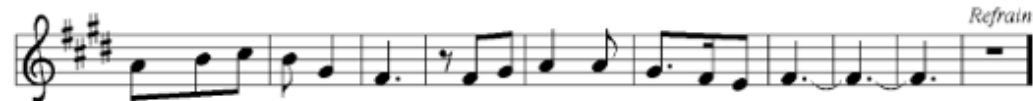
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



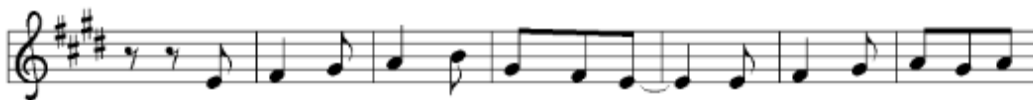
freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



### **Prayer of the Day**

**P** Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### **Childrens Sermon**

## **THE READINGS**

### **The First Reading: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18**

<sup>7</sup>Be silent before the Lord GOD!

For the day of the LORD is at hand;  
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice,  
he has consecrated his guests.

<sup>12</sup>At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,  
and I will punish the people  
who rest complacently on their dregs,  
those who say in their hearts,  
“The LORD will not do good,  
nor will he do harm.”

<sup>13</sup>Their wealth shall be plundered,  
and their houses laid waste.  
Though they build houses,  
they shall not inhabit them;  
though they plant vineyards,  
they shall not drink wine from them.

<sup>14</sup>The great day of the LORD is near,  
near and hastening fast;  
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter,  
the warrior cries aloud there.

<sup>15</sup>That day will be a day of wrath,  
a day of distress and anguish,

a day of ruin and devastation,  
a day of darkness and gloom,  
a day of clouds and thick darkness,  
<sup>16</sup>a day of trumpet blast and battle cry  
against the fortified cities  
and against the lofty battlements.

<sup>17</sup>I will bring such distress upon people  
that they shall walk like the blind;  
because they have sinned against the LORD,  
their blood shall be poured out like dust,  
and their flesh like dung.

<sup>18</sup>Neither their silver nor their gold  
will be able to save them  
on the day of the LORD's wrath;  
in the fire of his passion  
the whole earth shall be consumed;  
for a full, a terrible end  
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

**L The Word of the Lord C Thanks be to God!**

### **The Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup>For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! <sup>4</sup>But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; <sup>5</sup>for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then let us not fall asleep as others do but let us keep awake and be sober; <sup>7</sup>for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup>For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

**L The Word of the Lord C Thanks be to God!**

*Congregation:*

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we

go? You have the words of e - ter - nal

life. Al - le - lu - ia!

*Optional Repeat*

## **The Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30**

**P** The Holy Gospel according... **C** Glory to you, **O** Lord!

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>14</sup>“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; <sup>15</sup>to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. <sup>17</sup>In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. <sup>18</sup>But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. <sup>19</sup>After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ <sup>21</sup>His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ <sup>22</sup>And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ <sup>23</sup>His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ <sup>24</sup>Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not

scatter seed; <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ <sup>26</sup>But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? <sup>27</sup>Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

**P** The Gospel of the Lord! **C Praise to you, O Christ!**

**Sermon**

“The Treasure In Our Hands”

*Pastor Steve Bond*

**Hymn**

“Lord of Glory, You Have Brought Us”

**ELW 707**

**The Apostles’ Creed**

**C 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.**

### **WE DEDICATE OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER**

**P** Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

**AM** Gracious God, you give talents and gifts to all your people, and you equip the church to serve. Turn us from fear and self-serving ways, that we use our talents to glorify you and encourage our neighbor. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

**AM** You have been our dwelling place from one generation to another. Sustain the life of the planet; protect farmlands and harvests. Direct all people in wise stewardship of all the earth's resources. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

**AM** You call us to honesty and integrity. Instill these values in the hearts of all nations and their leaders. Free any who are oppressed, expose all corruption, and bring redemption to victims of injustice. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

**AM** You teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart. Where there is sickness or sorrow, bring healing, and where there is loneliness, reveal your love in community. We remember before you; **Tom Jennings, Kay Burdo, Craig Burdo, Phyllis Sturgeon, Sue & Jim Enk, Christal & Chad Pritchard, Brittany Dewitz, Brianna Chevez, Sue Brown, Judy Mock, Deann Schiavone, Val Brown, Joe Perkins Jr., Ron Hetherwick, Shirley & Mike Barns, Frank Okonski, Tristan Kimmey, Austin Cunningham, Sienna, Reichen, Nacole.....** and all others whom we remember in silence. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

**AM** We pray for the faith formation ministries of our church. Give to all children, youth, and adults who study your word the breastplate of faith and love. Shape us by your love and show us how to encourage one another. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

**AM.** Gracious God, you are faithful in all generations. For the promise of life and rest and for the witness of those who have died in faith we praise your goodness. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

**P** We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### **THE MEAL**

*All Christians are welcome to commune at our Altar. You do not have to be a member of this congregation to receive Communion. Grape juice is available in the inner ring of glasses for those desiring it.*

### **Sharing of the Peace**

**P** The Peace of the Lord be with you all! **C** **And also with you!**  
*Share an expression of peace with your neighbor, please.*

**Our Tithes and Offerings** *Bring your gifts to the Altar or you may offer gifts in the tray located at the rear of the sanctuary. Thank you.*

### **Offering Prayer**

**AM** God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. **Amen.**

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The musical score is written on five staves in a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are centered under the notes. The parts for Presider and Congregation are indicated by labels above the staves.

Presider: Congregation:

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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 God thanks and praise.



## HOLY

*Congregation:*

The musical score is written on five staves of a single treble clef. The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The first staff is in 6/8 time. The second staff changes to 3/8 time. The third staff is in 6/8 time. The fourth staff is in 6/8 time. The fifth staff is in 6/8 time. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

### The Words of Institution

*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. Jesus said, 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. Jesus said, Do this for the remembrance of me.*

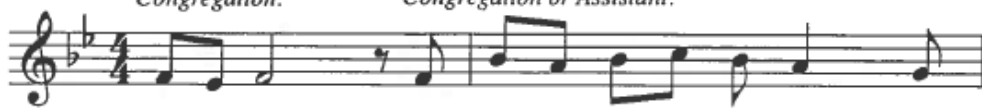
### The Lord's Prayer

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

## Communion Hymns

### LAMB OF GOD

*Congregation:*                      *Congregation or Assistant:*



Lamb of God,                      you take a - way the sin of                      the  
you break the chains of ha - tred                      and  
you are the way of jus - tice                      and  
you are the way of mer - cy                      and


*Congregation:*



world:                      have mer - cy on us,                      mer - cy on us,  
fear:  
peace:  
love.

**Final Stanza**

*Congregation or Assistant:*



mer - cy                      on                      us.                      Lamb of God,                      you

*Congregation:*



take a - way the sins of                      the world:                      grant us peace,



grant                      us peace,                      grant                      us                      peace.

“Christ Be Our Light”  
“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

ELW 715  
ELW 815

## **Post Communion Blessing**

### **Prayer after Communion**

**AM** Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way. **Amen.**

## **THE SENDING**

### *Milestones & Announcements:*

#### **The Blessing**

**P** May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, ✝ Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always. **Amen.**

#### **Sending Hymn**

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

**ELW 632**

#### **Dismissal**

**AM** Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**AM** And next week, **C Bring a friend!**

#### **Postlude**

# Making Jesus Known”

**This is the Day the Lord has made!** We are pleased to REJOICE AND WELCOME you! May God’s Word and Sacrament bless you! If you are visiting Community of Christ, we want to extend a very warm welcome to you! We would ask our visitors to complete the visitor card in the friendship pad. If there is some way we can serve you, please let us know!

**We WELCOME YOU** to worship with us at one of our TWO worship services. Join us at 8:00 a.m. or 10:00 a.m. in person or on Facebook Live. We look forward to seeing you and as always BRING A FRIEND!!!!

**Young Adult and Adult Bible Study** please join Pastor Steve in the library!

## Topics for November:

Nov. 19          Grace and Gratitude: A Way of Life, Part 3

Nov. 26          Grace and Gratitude: A Way of Life, Part 4

**Mark Your Calendars!** Our congregation will host an **annual meeting** on **Sunday, December 3** immediately following the 10:00 a.m. worship service. We will receive the proposed budget for 2024 and elect four members for the church council. Please plan to attend this important meeting. Thank you!



Altar  
Flowers  
Ministry Opportunity

**Altar Flowers are given in honor of  
Sharon and Dave Prueter’s  
Wedding Anniversary! ♥**

**A Treasured Tradition - The Annual Covenant Signing:** Community of Christ is nearing its 50th Anniversary. When the congregation was founded, its first pastor and leaders determined annually to affirm their participation in what God is doing through this particular congregation. Beginning on Sunday, November 26, those who gather in worship (including those who participate “online”) will have the opportunity to renew this covenant. More information will be shared during the Sunday morning services and by email. We hope that you will review this covenant and affirm your involvement in the life and ministry of Community of Christ.



## Angel Gifts for Salem Children

This year, as in past years, Community of Christ will have the opportunity to reach out and bless the children at our sister church, Salem Lutheran Church in north Toledo. Salem Lutheran has provided us with a list of names of their children and their gift requests. These requests are in an envelope and are displayed on the bulletin board in the Gathering Place.

Here are some important dates for the project:

- Enter your name on the pink or blue Angel slip on board and take the envelope. **Please do not remove pink or blue slips or relocate them on the board as this is our inventory method.**
- Shop for your Angel and leave your gift under the COC Christmas tree in the sanctuary.
- **Sunday, December 17, 2023:** Have your gifts to the church by this date.  
*No later than 12:00 p.m.*

Thank you for helping to bless these children!  
Shelly & Ken Hayes

- **Please note that the community Thanksgiving Service will be canceled this year. The service was to be hosted by Zion United Methodist Church in Whitehouse; however, Pastor McCall and his wife will be bringing into the world a new baby! We will look forward to a community Thanksgiving Service next year. Please keep Pastor McCall and his family in your prayers for blessings.**

## **Book Club**

**We will meet in the HS Sunday  
School Room @ 1:00 p.m.  
November 21, 2023**





**Community of Christ FAMILY Fellowship Event  
Walleye Hockey Game and Dinner at PizzaPapalis**

**Huntington Center, 500 Jefferson Avenue, Downtown  
Toledo**

**PizzaPapalis, 519 Monroe Street, Toledo, OH 43604**

**Sunday, December 3, 2023**

**5:15 Game followed by dinner**

**\$17.00 per hockey ticket (plus pizza)**

Join us for a family fun night at the Huntington Center for a Walleye Game. Once you sign up a link will be emailed to you to purchase exclusive tickets being reserved for Community of Christ. Please also let us know if you will be joining us for Pizza afterward. Please sign up on the kiosk and include your name, phone number, number of tickets, and whether or not you will be joining us for Pizza. You can call Kara Yokum at 419-344-8307 or Susan Nofzinger at 419-654-9227 with questions.



**2023 Congregational Meeting!**  
**Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**following the 10:00 a.m. service.**  
**Please plan to attend!**

**Join us on Facebook Live at  
10:00 a.m.**

**or**

**in person!**

Worship & Sacrament  
Sunday 8 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

**Sunday Morning Bible Study**  
9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

**AA Meeting**

Wednesdays 8 p.m.

**Midweek Bible Study**

Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.

**Caregivers Support Meeting**

First Monday of every month  
6:30 p.m.

**Worship Services**

Available on the net  
at [www.commofchrist.org](http://www.commofchrist.org)