



Community of Christ Lutheran Church
8th Sunday after Pentecost, Sunday, July 14, 2024
9:00 a.m.
Pastor Stephen C. Bond



THE GATHERING

Welcome

Pastor Steve Bond

Musical Prelude

“Air On The G String” by, J.S. Bach

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, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God’s abundance, let us confess our sin.
Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider, **help us.**

It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, ✝ the bread of life, you are shown God’s mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

ELW 807

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



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



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



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



Prayer of the Day

PO God, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Childrens Sermon

THE READINGS

The First Reading: Amos 7:7-15

⁷This is what [the Lord GOD] showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. ⁸And the LORD said to me, “Amos, what do you see?” And I said, “A plumb line.” Then the Lord said,

“See, I am setting a plumb line
in the midst of my people Israel;
I will never again pass them by;

⁹the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,
and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,
and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.”

¹⁰Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, “Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. ¹¹For thus Amos has said,

‘Jeroboam shall die by the sword,
and Israel must go into exile
away from his land.’”

¹²And Amaziah said to Amos, “O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; ¹³but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.”

¹⁴Then Amos answered Amaziah, “I am no prophet, nor a prophet’s son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, ¹⁵and the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’”

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

The Second Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

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



The Holy Gospel: Mark 6:14-29

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

¹⁴King Herod heard of [the disciples' preaching,] for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." ¹⁵But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." ¹⁶But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

¹⁷For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married

her. ¹⁸For John had been telling Herod, “It is not lawful for you to have your brother’s wife.” ¹⁹And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, ²⁰for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. ²¹But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. ²²When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, “Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it.” ²³And he solemnly swore to her, “Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom.” ²⁴She went out and said to her mother, “What should I ask for?” She replied, “The head of John the baptizer.” ²⁵Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, “I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.” ²⁶The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. ²⁷Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John’s head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, ²⁸brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

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

Sermon

“The Price of the Truth”

Pastor Steve Bond

Hymn

“Let Justice Flow like Streams”

ELW 717

The Apostle’s 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 One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

A brief silence.

AM You gather your people into the body of Christ. Where your church is wounded, heal it. Where it is right, strengthen it. Where it is divided, reunite it. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

AM From before the foundation of the world, you are God. Revive ecosystems destroyed by human greed. Curb our desire to put wealth ahead of the health of all who call this planet home. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

AM You establish equity and make justice. Within every nation, tribe, and land, cause laws to be written and customs to be observed that protect the most vulnerable. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

AM On the cross your beloved Son endured pain and death. Bring healing to those in need, hope to any in despair, and comfort to the dying; **Tom Jennings, Sue & Jim Enk, Christal & Chad Pritchard, Frank O’Konski, Larry Geer, Troy Bernhard, Kevin Stiles, Susie Donnal, Fred Ortner, Ron Hetherwick, Jim Bucher, Renee, Jack Miller, Tom Szor, Janet Dellinger....** and all others whom we remember in silence. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

AM You send your Spirit into this community of faith. Empower our ministries that serve and build up local communities. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

AM All peoples praise you, O God. We give you thanks and praise for the lives of our loved ones who now rest in you, especially Marie Panning, Gary Paulsen, and Margeruite Meyer. In the fullness of time gather us with all your saints in light. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

P Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, 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. A "gluten-free" host option is available upon request as well.

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 Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

Amen.

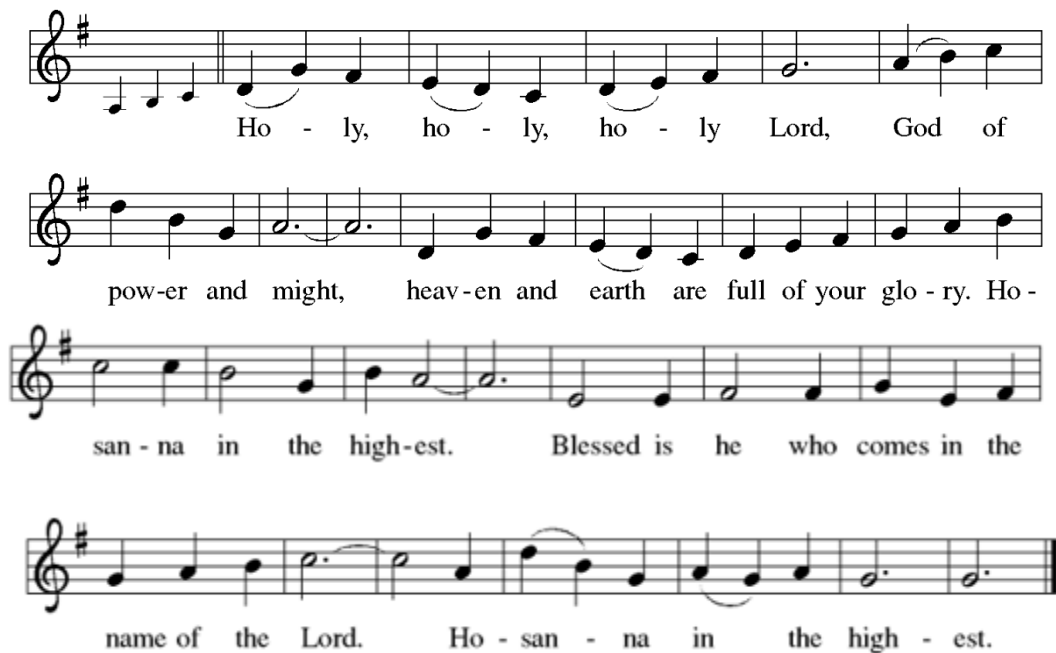
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

****The Eucharistic Prayer Continues.....**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Words of Institution

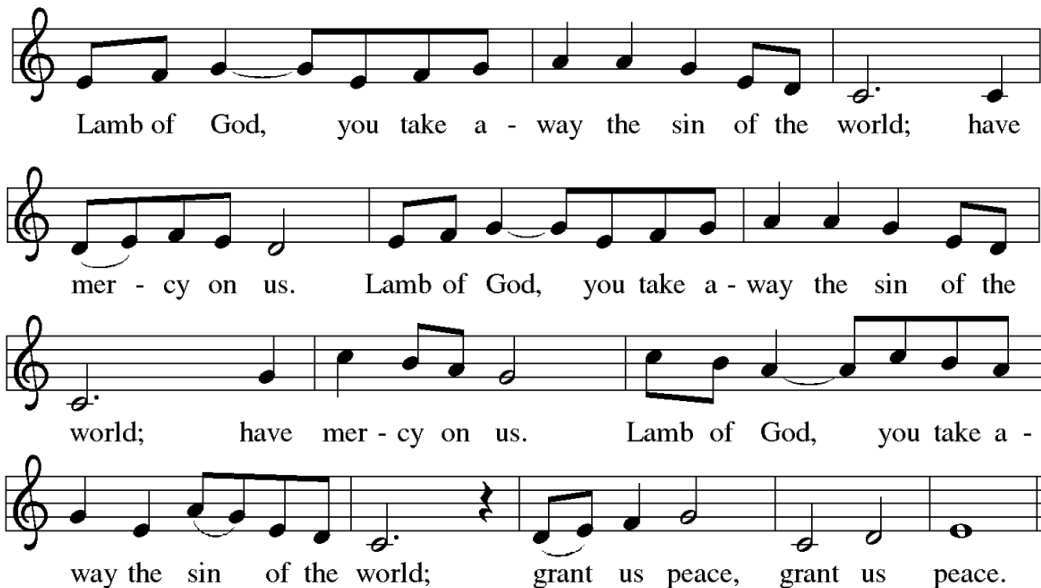
In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Jesus said, Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink,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



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.

Hymn

“Just a Closer Walk with Thee”
“Jesus Loves Me!”

ELW 697
ELW 595

Post Communion Blessing

Prayer after Communion

AM Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name, we pray. **Amen.**

THE SENDING

Milestones & Announcements:

The Blessing

P The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

“Holy God, We Praise Your Name”

ELW 414

Dismissal

AM Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

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

Making Jesus Known”

Welcome to Community of Christ! Thank you for choosing to worship with us this morning! We have moved to our summer worship hours. We will worship on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. through Sunday, September 8. Join us in person or on Facebook Live!!! Welcome to all who are visiting with us this morning! You are always welcome here!



**Altar Flowers are given by Carol Wiemken to the
Glory of God ✚**

Altar Flower dedications are available in the church hallway on the bulletin board. If you want to honor or remember a loved one, please sign up today. Simply fill out a blank date tag and envelope, place a check or cash and the tag in the envelope, and place it in the offering plate no later than the Monday before the dedication date. We are grateful for your blessings.

Summer Spirituality Saturdays – Please sign up at the kiosk!

Worlds Within Words: Poetry as a Spiritual Practice—There is often a fine line between poets and saints—both have a way of helping us to see the world through new eyes and to be oriented in light of their insights. This session will be an introduction to a variety of poets and poems, a chance to explore how poetry touches our souls in a way that novels or lectures don’t, and to experiment with our own poetic engagement with the world. This session will be mostly indoors, but with a bit of inspiration from a walk around our little corner of the world that God loves (so comfortable shoes would be good), and we’ll have some great resources to share with all who come. This session will be on **July 20, 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.** again here at Community of Christ!

The Practice of Creativity: Visual Arts and Faith—If we have been made in God’s image, and God is a joyful creator who delights in beauty, design, variety, and

playfulness, then there will be connections between visual arts and spirituality, too. This session is an invitation for beginners and advanced art students, and everyone in between, to explore how the *act* of being creative puts us in touch with God, regardless of whether your final product goes on a refrigerator with a magnet or gets framed for a gallery. We'll have some hands-on art activities to try, but we'll also focus on the joy in the act of creating itself, whether you're doodling in marker or pencil, painting with watercolors, or making abstract patterns with color. This event will be great for kids and adults alike, and it will be held in the fellowship hall on August 17, 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

The Ladies' Lunch ****a NEW LOCATION will be determined for Friday, July 26th @ 11:30 a.m. as Miss Lily's is **closed**.*** Question?? call Becky King @ 419-349-7319.

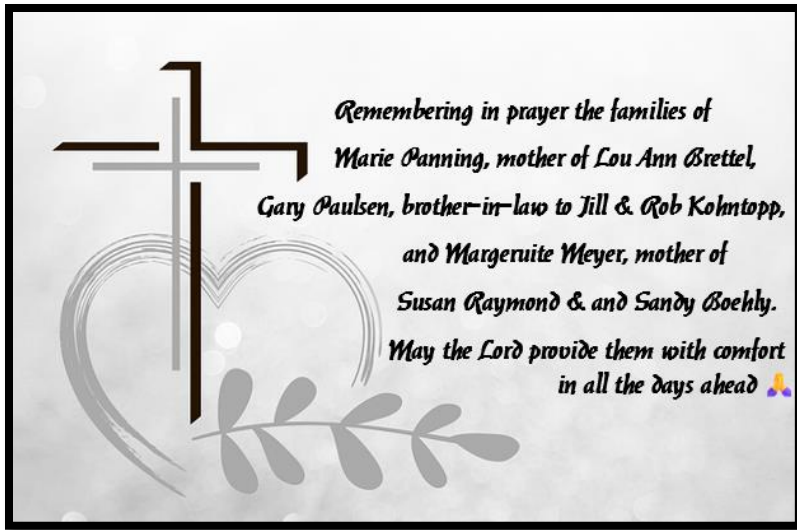
Food (And Drink) for Thought—Next Gathering on July 18

After our first “Food (and Drink) for Thought gathering in June, we’ve prepared for a second gathering at Shawn’s Irish Tavern in Waterville (105 S. 3rd Street) this **Thursday, July 18, from 6:00-8:00 p.m.** Come join us for a casual gathering over food and a drink where the conversation can flow from the friendly and light-hearted to the deep and profound, and everywhere in between. We have a room reserved, so sign up at the kiosk and plan on joining us! Don’t forget to bring a question or two, and a friend!

LAST DAY TO SIGN UP!!!!



If you would like to cheer on our Toledo Mudhens as they take on the Saint Paul Saints next **Sunday, July 21st at 4:05 p.m.** you will need to buy tickets today using the link that was emailed on Friday, June 21. Tickets are \$11 per person. If you wish to purchase the add-on food options **CASH ONLY is due TODAY!** Tickets are \$10 per person. Choice of a hotdog and chips, or pizza, and soft drink, Cash will not be accepted after today. For questions or help with tickets call or text Chad Ackerman at 419-350-4879



LWR Quilt Ministry
Tuesday, July 16
Stewardship
Tuesday, July 16
Bible Study
Thursday, July 18
Food for Thought @ Shawn's in Waterville 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Thursday, July 18
Summer Spirituality
Saturday, July 20
Toledo Mud Hens
Sunday, July 21

Worship Services
 Available on the net
 at
www.commofchrist.org

Church Office Hours
8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
(Monday through Friday)
Please note.....

Hours may vary with vacations,
 please call ahead 😊