



Community of Christ Lutheran Church
13th Sunday after Pentecost, Sunday, August 18, 2024
9:00 a.m.
Pastor Stephen C. Bond



THE GATHERING

Welcome

Pastor Steve Bond

Musical Prelude

“Menuet gothique ” by Léon Boëllmann

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

“Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”

ELW 789

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 -

yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, ²⁰ giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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



The Holy Gospel: John 6:51-58

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

[Jesus said,] ⁵¹ "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever, and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

⁵² The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" ⁵³ So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; ⁵⁵ for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷ Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me.

⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."

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

Sermon

"You Are What You Eat"

Pastor Steve Bond

Hymn

"By Your Hand You Feed Your People"

ELW 469

Affirmation of Baptism

P Those affirming their baptisms to become members of our congregation and their sponsors, are invited to come forward.

These persons have come to us from other congregations, and they desire to make public affirmation of their Baptism.

Sisters and brothers, we rejoice to receive you, members already of the one holy catholic and apostolic church into our fellowship in the Gospel.

P Beloved sisters and brothers in Christ, and all the congregation: in Holy Baptism, our Lord Jesus Christ received you and made you members of his Church. In the community of God's people, you have learned from his Word God's loving purpose for you and all creation. You continue to be nourished at his holy table and are called to be witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. So therefore, trusting in the promises of God made to you in your own baptism, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize:

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

R I renounce them.

P Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

R I renounce them.

P Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

R I renounce them.

P Do you believe in God the Father?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C 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

P You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear God's Word and share in his Supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus, and to strive for peace and justice in all the earth? If so, I ask you to respond, "I do, and I ask God to help and guide me."

R I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ, to receive these new members of our church family as your own sisters and brothers and as God's beloved, to rejoice with them in their joy, and to weep with them in their sorrows as part of the one body of Christ, and to encourage these new members in living out the covenant God has made with them in baptism?

C We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

P Let us pray:

Gracious Lord, through water and the Spirit you have made these people your own. You forgave them all their sins and brought them to newness of life.

Continue to strengthen them with the Holy Spirit, and daily increase in them your gifts of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord. Amen

WE DEDICATE OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER

P Calling on the spirit of Wisdom to guide our hearts and our minds, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

AM Wisdom has built her house. May the church be a house of wisdom for all who enter. May we continue to grow and stretch in ways we never thought possible.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

AM Wisdom has mixed her wine. May the harvest seasons be plentiful this year. We pray for orchards, vineyards, farms, and all of creation. Protect and conserve the earth. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

AM Wisdom has employed her laborers. Be with all who seek adequate employment. Guide our economic and governmental leaders to support the people of our world with fair wages and safe working conditions. Merciful God, **receive our prayer**

AM Wisdom has invited her guests. Make your presence known to all who feel lost, abandoned, or hurt at this time. Direct your spirit of care to all who seek healing and comfort; **Tom Jennings, Sue & Jim Enk, Christal & Chad Pritchard, Frank O’Konski, Larry Geer, Troy Bernhard, Susie Donnal, Ron Hetherwick, Jack Miller, Janet Dellinger, Denny Masters, Joanne & Terry, Nancy Meyer, Bill Lenz, Bev Crampton, Connie Weaver, Martina Benton....** and all others whom we remember in silence. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

AM Wisdom has set her table. May this congregation be a welcome table to all who seek the refuge of God. Break down walls and barriers that prevent us from offering a seat at this table to anyone who comes. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

AM Wisdom has shown her path of insight. May we journey on her paths, looking toward a bright future while remembering from where we have come. We give our thanks for those who have gone before us. Merciful God, **receive our prayer**

P We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping. **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

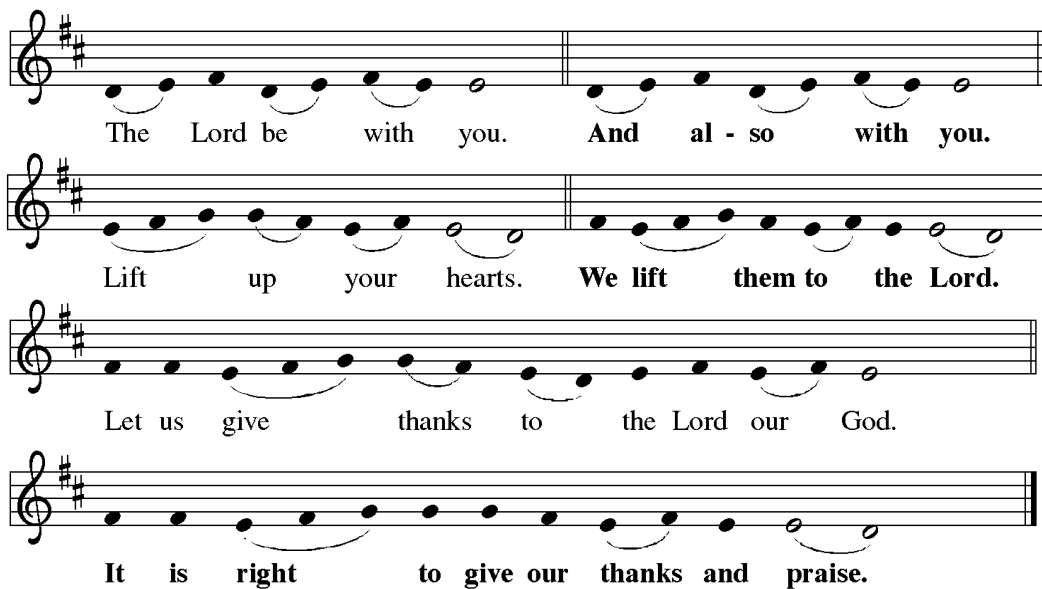
P The Peace of the Lord be with you all! **C And also with you!**
Share an expression of peace with your neighbor, please.

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

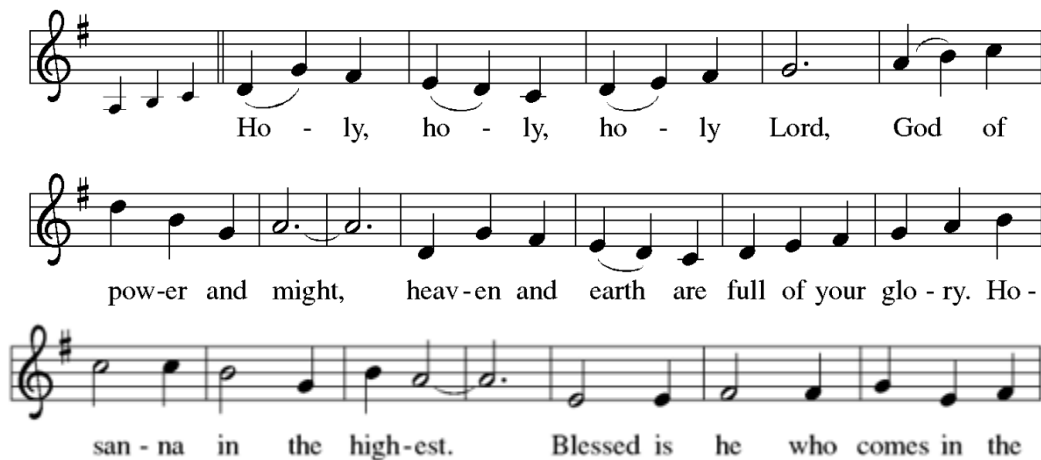
AM Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

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

“I Am the Bread of Life”

ELW 485

“This Is Christ’s Body”

ACS 967

This is Christ's bod - y, bro - ken and blest. Feed us with
mer-cy and love. We are Christ's bod - y,
with mer - cy and love.
bro - ken and blest. Heal us and make us one.

The musical score is written in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The first system covers the first two lines of lyrics. The second system covers the next two lines, with a long note in the vocal line for 'mer-cy and love.' The third system covers the final two lines, also featuring a long note for 'blest.' The piano accompaniment provides a steady harmonic support with chords and moving bass lines.

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

“Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”

ELW 843

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!



*****IMPORTANT*****

**SPONSORED WEEKENDS HAVE NOT
BEEN TURNED IN*****

If you have sponsored a weekend for Altar Flowers and have not turned in your envelope(s) please do so no later than the Sunday before that weekend so this can be shared in the bulletin. Thank you ☩

**Altar Flowers are given by Cammie & Michael
Abraham to the Glory of God!**

Community of Christ family and friends, as we prepare for the new school year, today we will have our Blessing of the Backpacks! We invite all students, teachers, and educators to stand/come forward during our Children's Sermon to have you backpacks blessed by Pastor Steve.

Join Us this Thursday, August 22 for Food (And Drink) for Thought

We will meet at Shawn's Irish Tavern in Waterville (105 S. 3rd Street) from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Remember this gathering is casually shared over food and drink where the conversation can flow from friendly and light-hearted to deep and profound, to everywhere in between. Our older brother in the faith, Martin Luther, was famous for something similar that they used to call "table talk," where friends and guests would gather for conversations that ranged from BIG questions about life, faith, God, and meaning, to small talk and laughter (often over mugs of whatever Katie Luther had been brewing herself), plus we're trying to tap into that spirit of playfulness, faithful conversation, and fellowship. It's not a Bible study, but you can bring a question or a thought you want to bounce off other minds. Although this is not a church service, you are welcome to "Bring a Friend". Also, we have a room reserved for us, so please sign up at the kiosk and plan on joining us to see what it's all about!

The Ladies lunch will be going to Chowder N Moor on August 23rd @ 11:30 a.m. 312 South St. Please sign up at the kiosk so reservations can be made. Questions?? Call Becky King @ 49-349-7319 and as always bring a friend.

Lutheran World Relief School Kits we are still in need of school supplies for the LWR School Kit drive. Our goal this year is to fill 50 – 60 bags! Here is a list of items needed; however, you can find a copy of them in the gathering space. If you have any questions, please contact Carrie Tuohy @ 419-574-2297. Thank you!

(4) 70 sheet notebooks - (Wide or College Ruled) No loose-leaf paper.

(1) 30-centimeter ruler or one with both centimeters and inches on it.

(1) pencil sharpener

(1) pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors)

(5) unsharpened pencils

(5) black or blue ballpoint pens (No gel ink please)

Join us after worship on Sunday, August 25, for an open breakfast for the whole congregation, hosted by Council and Outreach, as we both gear up for a new school year and also welcome our new seminary intern, Vicar Natalie Downs! Everybody is welcome, right after the 9:00 a.m. service in the fellowship hall!



Friends and Faith Fall Kick-Off

Community of Christ parents, grandparents, and friends would you like an opportunity for the youth in your life from grades 7-12 to make memories, start new friendships, and get energized for what's ahead this school year? If so, the Anthony Wayne Area Friends and Faith Fall Kick-off invites you to have a fantastic time by joining us on Sunday, August 25, 2024, from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. here at Community of Christ Lutheran Church! Scan the QR code at the

kiosk to register!! As always be sure to invite a FRIEND!!!

Let's Get This Party Started!

The choir will be kicking off our new season with a party at Doug and Rose Ackerman's home, 9454 Rockingham Dr., Whitehouse on August 28 at 6:00-? The main dish will be provided. Please bring a side or dessert. BYOB if you want something other than water or pop. Please sign up at the kiosk. New members or potential members are welcome!

Say YES to the choir!

Sign up on the kiosk or the church website, (commofchrist.org), for 1, 2, 3, or all 4 of the choir sessions offered between Sept 4 and Dec 24—more details at the kiosk and in the newsletter. Let's make a joyful noise together!

The Tuesday Morning Ladies bible study This new study begins Sept.17th @ 8:30 am. This fall we will learn about the prophet Hosea and his prostitute wife who leave, and Gomer continues under God's direction to buy back and bring home. This study shows how God kept loving the Jewish nation even when they had turned from him, he kept loving them just as Gomer loved his wife. We have much to learn about so great a love. You will need to purchase your study guide entitled 'Hosea'. Please sign up at the kiosk if you will be attending. Questions? call Becky King @ 419-349-7319

Welcome New Members! Ken & Sharon Bucher, Amy Fifer, daughter Stella and son, James, and Ron Atkins. We are excited to have you as a part of our Community of Christ family!

Welcome Table Wednesdays

This fall, we're inviting children, families, and adults to a weekly gathering on Wednesday evenings with food, fellowship, and faith activities for all ages. Our Welcome Table Wednesdays will kick off on Wednesday, **September 4th** with a dinner open to all from 6:00-7:00 p.m., and then at 7:00 p.m., we'll have activities that are especially geared for kids and families, with music, stories, crafts, and games. It's open to everyone, too! (Of course, if you are planning to be in the choir this fall but want to bring your kids along to church, this is a great chance for kids to get to do fun and faithful activities with music, art, stories, and games while you join the choir! All will wrap up by 8:00 p.m. so you can get to the rest of your evenings after that! Sign up at the kiosk to let us know you plan on coming on the dates you can join us!

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 ☺

Christian Education
Monday, August 29
Stewardship
Tuesday, August 20
LWR Quilt Ministry
Tuesday, August 20
Bible Study
Thursday, August 22, 29
Food (and a Drink) for Thought
Thursday, August 22
Ladies Lunch
Friday, August 23
Pride Parade Walk
Saturday, August 24
Open Breakfast
Sunday, August 25
Friends and Faith
Sunday, August 25
Choir Party
Wednesday, August 28
Church Office Closed
Friday, August 30
Monday, September 2 in observation of Labor Day



Did one of our Bible readings capture your attention today? Was there a story you could picture in your mind? Did a phrase from a hymn or a thought from the sermon start some new ideas or inspire some reflection? Did a Scripture passage spark a question for you to think about? Use this space here as an open canvas for your faithful imagination: you can draw a picture of something you pictured, write a question,

take notes from the message or scriptures, or doodle your faith into a visible form here. Then, either take it with you or leave your thoughts and images here to be shared in an ongoing collection here at Community of Christ!