



Community of Christ Lutheran Church
11th Sunday after Pentecost, Sunday, August 4, 2024
9:00 a.m.

Pastor Stephen C. Bond



THE GATHERING

Welcome

Pastor Steve Bond

Musical Prelude

“Sheep May Safely Graze” 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, Ye Disconsolate”

ELW 607

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

P O God, eternal goodness, immeasurable love, you place your gifts before us; we eat and are satisfied. Fill us and this world in all its need with the life that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Childrens Sermon

THE READINGS

The First Reading: Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

²The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. ³The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

⁴Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not.”

⁹Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’” ¹⁰And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. ¹¹The Lord spoke to Moses and said, ¹²“I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning, you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”

¹³In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. ¹⁴When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground.

¹⁵When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.”

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

The Second Reading: Ephesians 4:1-16

1I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, 2with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. 4There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, 5one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

7But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. 8Therefore it is said,

“When he ascended on high, he made captivity itself a captive;
he gave gifts to his people.”

9(When it says, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? 10He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) 11The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, 12to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, 13until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. 14We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. 15But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, 16from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

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



The Holy Gospel: John 6:24-35

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

²⁴When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were [beside the sea,] they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

²⁵When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” ²⁶Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.” ²⁸Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?” ²⁹Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” ³⁰So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?”

³¹Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” ³²Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” ³⁴They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

³⁵Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

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

Sermon

“Skipping the Junk Food Aisle”

Pastor Steve Bond

Hymn

“What Feast of Love”

ELW 487

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 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 O Wise One, your wisdom has been present in this world since its beginning. Pour out your wisdom into the hearts of the whole church, especially the newly baptized, lay leaders, deacons, pastors, and bishops. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

AM Holy God of all creation, you are the source of all life. Where the sun blazes hard and strong, bring a gentle breeze. In the places experiencing the cold of winter, bring your warmth. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

AM Compassionate God, help government leaders of this world unite for peace and justice. Humble all who hold authority, that power is directed toward a more just society. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

AM Bread of life from heaven, you feed us. Fill all who hunger with needed nutrition and open our hearts to eliminate hunger in this world. May we see a day when all are fed. Heal those who are sick; **Tom Jennings, Sue & Jim Enk, Christal & Chad Pritchard, Frank O’Konski, Larry Geer, Troy Bernhard, Susie Donnal, Fred Ortner, Ron Hetherwick, Jack Miller, Janet Dellinger, Denny Masters, Joanne & Terry, Nancy Meyer, Bill Lenz, Bev Crampton...** and all others whom we remember in silence. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

AM O Wisdom of truth, help us to understand your will for the church. Be with congregations experiencing transition, redevelopment, and the exciting yet frightening path of newness. May your wisdom be found at every step. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

AM Redeeming God, we give you thanks for the lives and witness of your saints now departed especially Vernon Pontsler. Bring your beloved into eternal glory, opening wide the gates to the heavenly banquet. 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!

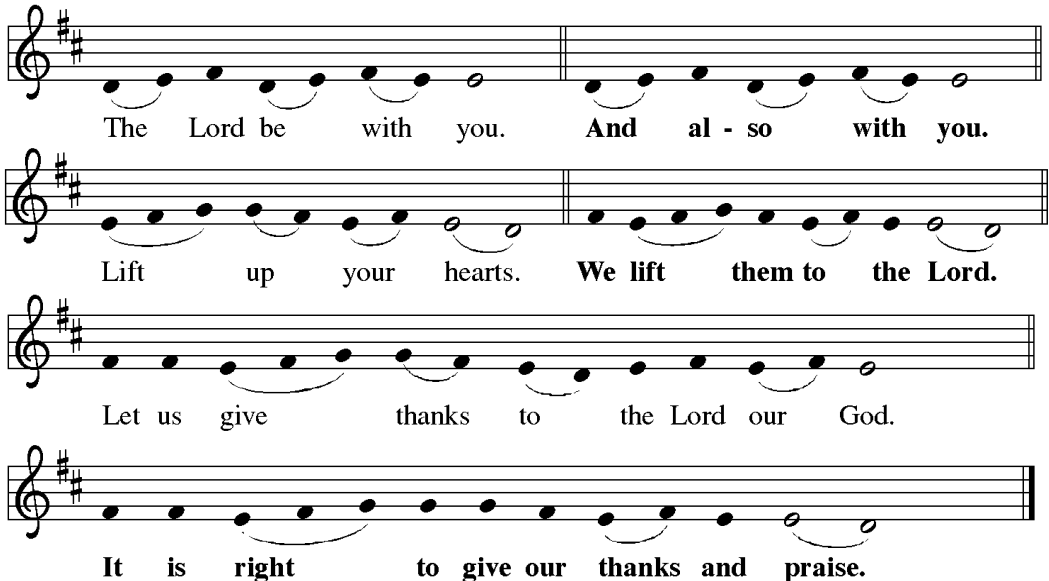
Share an expression of peace with your neighbor, please.

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.*

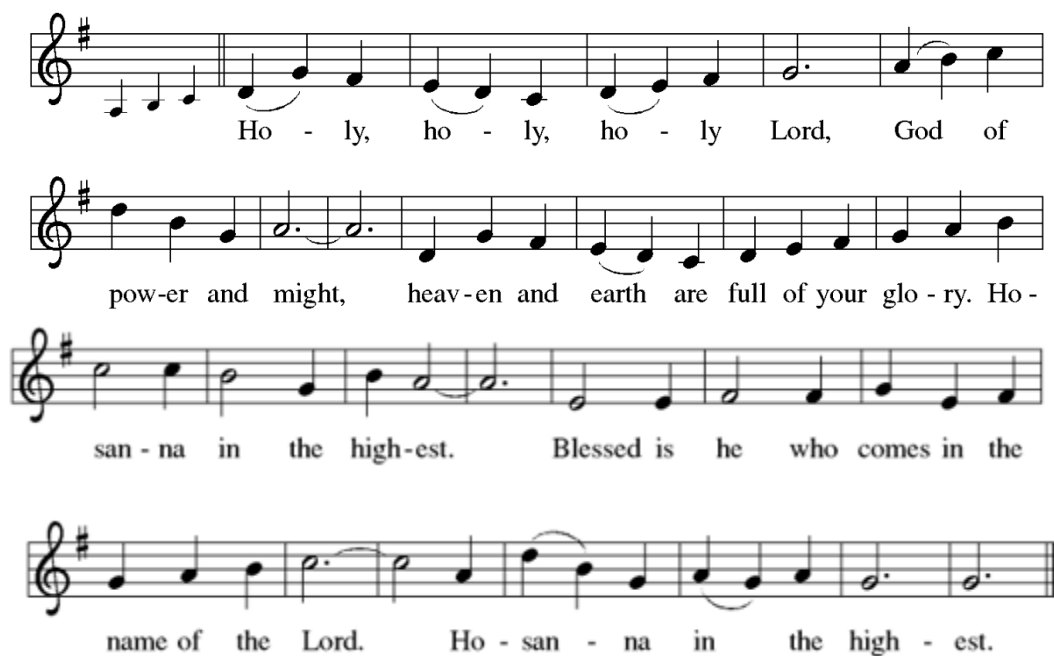
Offering Prayer

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 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

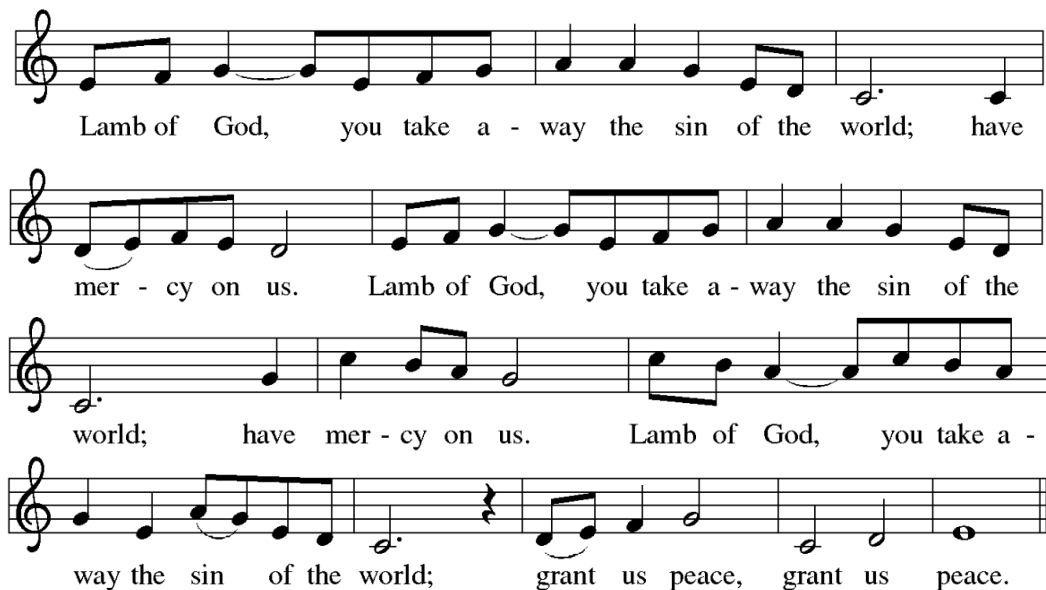
In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Jesus said, Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink,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

“All Who Hunger Gather Gladly”

ELW 461

“We Come Now To Your Table”

ACS 970



We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, you are the Liv - ing Bread.
We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, let ev - 'ry soul be fed.
You are the Liv - ing Bread, let ev - 'ry soul be fed:
and now may ev - 'ry soul be fed with Liv - ing Bread.

Post Communion Blessing

Prayer at the Sending of Communion

Gracious God, you took the form of a servant, offering yourself as food, comfort, and strength to a sick and hurting world. Anoint with a servant heart those who take your word and sacrament to our sisters and brothers *in their homes or in hospitals*. Grant grace, mercy, healing, and hope to those who feast on your body and blood and receive your words of new life. May we all recognize that we have a place and a home in the body of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

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

“Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak”

ELW 676

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 😊

Community of Christ Altar Flowers

An altar flower arrangement at our Sunday service is placed in a dedicated space to the right of our altar. These flowers are given to the glory of God first and foremost, and then in honor of, in memory of or in thanksgiving for a person or occasion.

If you would like to dedicate flowers, please see the available tags on the bulletin board in the hallway.

Choose your special date, complete the tag and special "Altar Flower" payment envelope, and return it to the church office or collection plate no later than the Monday before the dedication date. Once we receive the dedication information and a payment, your dedication will be added to that Sunday's bulletin. Or if you would like to bless the "Altar Flower" fund with a donation, there is a "Donation" envelope.

We are grateful for your blessings!



Our Last Summer Spirituality Saturday will be on Saturday, August 17!
– Please sign up at the kiosk!

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.

4th Annual Campout! Friday, August 9 @ 6 p.m. Please go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4EAEAA2AA0F8C34-first> for details and to sign up. Remember, you don't need to camp overnight to join the festivities. You may still come to enjoy a potluck dinner, s'mores, games, and fellowship. All ages are welcome. Questions may be directed to Lainie Davis @ lainiedavis22@gmail.com

Get your walking shoes back on, friends! Community of Christ has been asked to join a multi-faith initiative and walk in support at the Toledo Pride parade on Saturday, August 24th. By joining other local faith communities, we will be highlighting a message bigger than we can do individually – we all Love Out Loud and we are Better Together. Please consider joining the Outreach Committee and walk to promote inclusion for all in the world that God loves. Folks from many congregations and faith communities across the Toledo area will be walking together as a sign of God's love for all people, and if you're interested, you can use these QR codes to sign up to join the walk in the parade or to order a shirt thanks to friends at Zoar Lutheran Church in Perrysburg, who are coordinating the joint venture (orders close in just a couple of weeks!). See information and QR codes at the kiosk in the gathering place!



School Kits

It's that time of year again! We are collecting school supplies for **"Project Promise - Build Kits of Care"** through Lutheran World Relief. These kits allow students of all ages in third-world countries to attend school. Donations will be collected through September.

With Back-To-School Sales getting started now is a great time to pick up the items needed to fill our backpacks.

We would like to fill 50-60 backpacks again this year. Each backpack requires the following items: *(New Items Only Please)*

(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)

(1) box of 16 or 24 count box of crayons

(1) Eraser (approx. 2.5" in size)

Please do not donate anything with the American Flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage

School Supplies Needed for Salem's TPS Students – Needed by Sunday, August 11th

Salem Lutheran children need school supplies as they head off to class on August 21, 2024. This collection is different from the Lutheran World Relief collection in that it includes different items, and they are needed sooner (August 11th vs September 29th). We are collecting the following items and will transport them to Salem so they can be dispersed in time. Please place on the table in the gathering space:

- Canvas book bags – solid color
- Folders
- 24 pack Crayola Crayons
- Glue or glue sticks
- Pencils (mechanical, colored, and standard)
- Pencil sharpener
- Eraser
- Markers- colored
- Highlighter- Yellow
- Pens (black & red)
- Dry erase markers - black
- Pencil bag or box
- Blunt tip scissors
- Wide-ruled notebook paper
- Composition book
- Spiral notebooks
- Loose leaf notebook
- Stapler and staples
- Ruler
- 1-inch binders with inside pockets
- Subject dividers
- 3 x 5 Index cards
- Headphones or earbuds
- Clorox wet wipes
- Tissues
- Paper towels
- Quart storage bags

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 ☺

Visitation Ministry
Monday, August 5
LWR Quilt Ministry
Tuesday, August 6 & 20
Outreach
Tuesday, August 6
Worship & Music
Thursday, August 8
Bible Study
Thursday, August 8
Church Office Closed
Friday, August 9
4th Annual Campout/Cookout
Friday, August 9





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!