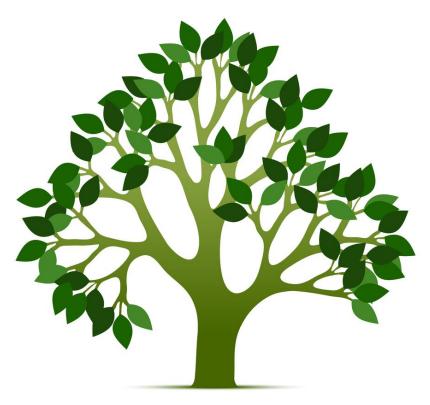
June 16, 2024 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost



Christ's Lutheran Church

700 East Pennsylvania Avenue Oreland, Pennsylvania

Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church connects individuals to God, each other, and the community.

Welcome to Worship at Christ's Lutheran Church!

The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Please stand in body or spirit as you are able.

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.

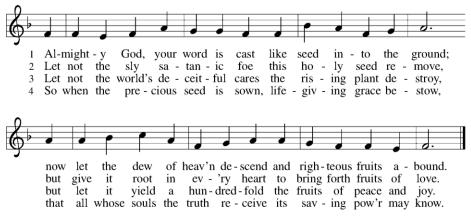
God, our provider, help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else 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 Song

Almighty God, Your Word is Cast ELW # 516



Text: John Cawood, 1775–1852, alt. Music: ST. FLAVIAN, J. Day, Psalter, 1562

Greeting

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

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise Verse 1

For the Fruit of All Creation ELW # 679



Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional

Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading

Ezekiel 17:22-24

A reading from Ezekiel, chapter 17.

²²Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twias: I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it. in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. ²⁴All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree. I make high the low tree; I dry up the areen tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

Bless the Lord



¹It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD,

to sing praise to your name, O Most High;

²to herald your love in the morning

and your faithfulness at night;

³on the psaltery, and on the lyre,

and to the melody of the harp.

⁴For you have made me glad by your acts, O LORD;

and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands. Response

¹²The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.
¹³Those who are planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God;
¹⁴they shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be green and succulent;
¹⁵that they may show how upright the LORD is, my rock, in whom there is no injustice.

Response

A reading from Second Corinthians, chapter 5.

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

¹¹Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. ¹²We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. ¹³For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. ¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand in body or spirit.

Gospel Acclamation

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah ELW # 172



Music: Caribbean traditional

The Holy Gospel

Mark 4:26-34

The holy gospel according to St. Mark. Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁶[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

³⁰He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

A Moment of Prayer

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying ELW # 752





Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943 Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema Text and music © 1973 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

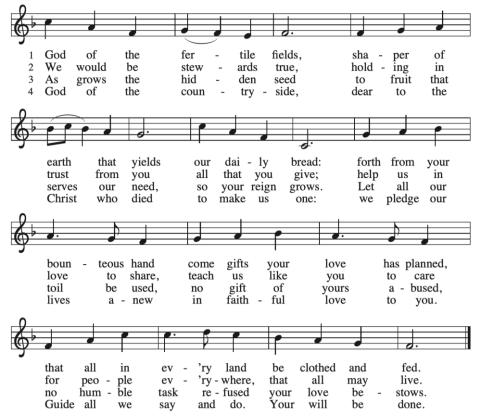
The Message

Pastor Axel Kaegler

Please stand in body or spirit.

Hymn of the Day

God of the Fertile Fields ACS # 1063



Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891-1974, alt.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716-1796

Text © 1955, ren. 1983 The Hymn Society, admin Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

Apostles' Creed

Let us affirm our faith in the words of the 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.

Please be seated.

Prayers of Intercession

We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

A brief silence.

Nourish your faithful people through gifts of word and worship. Guide the church in listening to and interpreting your message of grace for this time and place in history. In your wisdom, lead us in expanding the reach of your love. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Nature sings your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night. Sustain the holy rhythms of creation: days and seasons, hibernation and activity, phases of the moon and tides of the sea. Let these patterns assure us of your constancy. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.** You raise the lowly and humble those in high regard. Raise up all who are victims of marginalization, discrimination, and hate. As we anticipate Juneteenth, banish white supremacy and bigotry from the hearts of your people and remove the inclination toward anger and violence. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Tend to all who journey by faith and who wait with patience for the fulfillment of your healing promises. Grant perseverance to people doing physical and occupational therapy, people living with mobility concerns, and people facing chronic pain. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

As you have loved us, so let us love one another. Empower fathers, stepfathers, grandfathers, adoptive fathers, and chosen fathers to embody this gift of love for their children. Where these relationships are strained or broken, bring your comfort and peace. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

With gratitude, we remember the saints who are now at home with you. Plant seeds of their wisdom and witness in our hearts, that we grow in faith until we join them in your heavenly dwelling. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

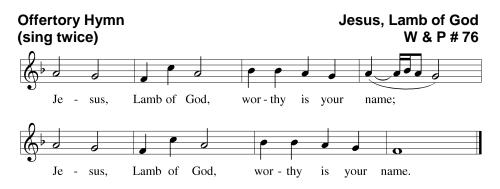
Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

You are invited to share God's peace with those around you and to greet those who are worshipping online.

Please stand.



Text: Dennis Jernigan, refrain of "You are my all in all" Music: ALL IN ALL, Dennis Jernigan

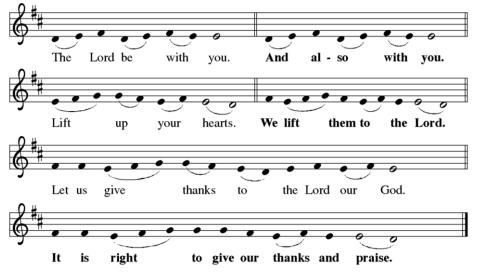
Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

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.**

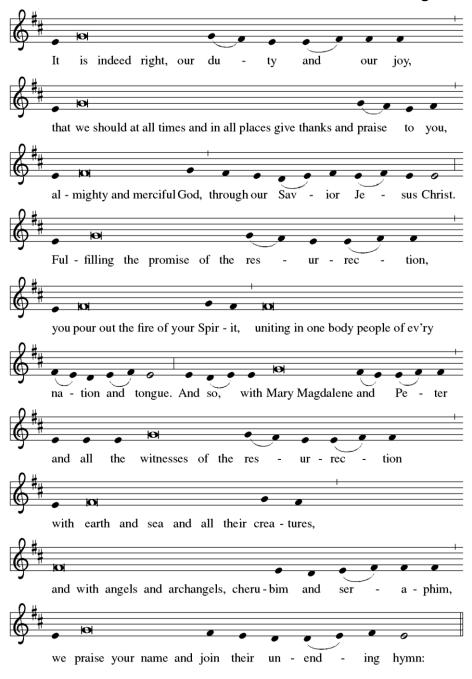
Great Thanksgiving

ELW Setting One

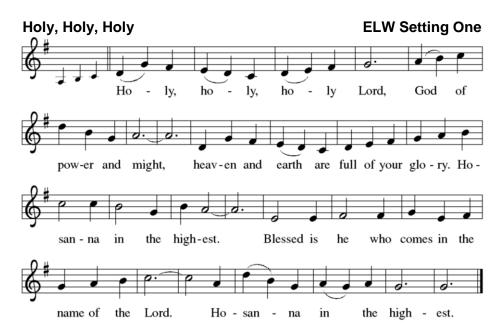


Preface

ELW Setting One



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Thanksgiving at the Table

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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 testament in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,

his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,

and the promise of his coming again,

we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,

not as we ought but as we are able;

we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine,

so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,

and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,

may be formed to live as your holy people

and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,

be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

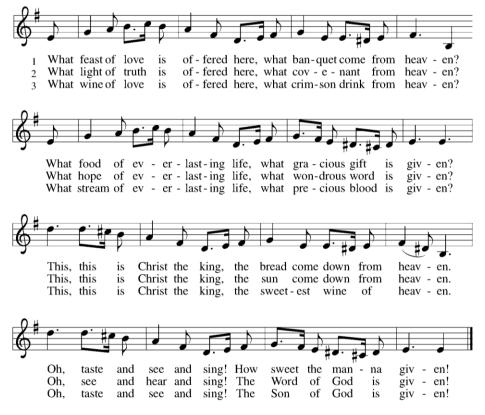


Lamb of God

ELW Setting One

Communion Hymn

What Feast of Love ELW # 487



Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

Text © 1993 Delores Dufner OSB. Published by OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

Post Communion Blessing

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



Prayer after Communion

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.**

Blessing

The Sending Song

Sent Forth by God's Blessing ELW # 547

Please see the next page for the hymn.

Dismissal

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

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Cares Chorus. Text and Music © Capitol CMG Publishing. 101 Winners Circle, Brentwood, TN 37027. All rights reserved. Used by permission, One License #A70825. CCLI License #15899737



Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997, alt.

THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune Text © 1964 World Library Publications, 3708 River Rd., Franklin Park, IL 60131-2158. All rights reserved.

Your Prayers Are Invited

We hope you will add the following people to your personal prayers. Those who are listed longer than 6 weeks can be found on the long term prayer list through the link in the weekly e-news or the monthly Link newsletters. To add a name to the prayer list or provide an update, please contact the office.

Don Berger Nikki Busch (Becca Shelor's aunt) Chippy the Clown (long-time friend at CLC events) Holly Curran (friend of Bob Kelly) Clyde Engle Paul Engstrom Jamie and Keith Eyre (friends of Karen Bennion) Gil Gavish & Family (son-in-law of Elise & Steve Seyfried) **Beryl Gutekunst** Paul & Rose Hill (friends of Shirley & Clyde Engle) Melody Maurer Chris Mudge Linda Nicholson (friend of Pat Hallman) Frank Quinn Jon Rasmussen Margie Reiman (Robin Griffin's aunt) Nancy Renner Sherry Rich (Don and Judy Berger's niece) Ruth Smith Marvin and Kara Strossenreuther (family members of Karen Bennion) Nik Zitomer (Diane Polis' nephew)

We remember in prayer the family and friends of Virginia (Ginny) Hoifjeld (former long-time member of CLC) who died on June 7. May her loved ones be comforted by the promise and hope of the resurrection.

We remember in prayer the family and friends of Paula Knipe (friend of Pat and Don Hallman) who died on June 8. May her loved ones be comforted by the promise and hope of the resurrection.

The flowers on the altar today are sponsored by The Uehling Family in celebration of fathers!

Summer Worship Services

Beginning **TODAY**, **Sunday**, **June 16**, our services throughout the summer will take place at 9:30 am. We will return to the regular schedule after Labor Day.

Summertime Sermon Question Series Returns!

Do you have a question you'd like Pastor Kaegler to address in a sermon? Write your question down on one of the slips of paper found at the back of church and drop it in the collection basket. A question will be drawn each week and Pastor will answer it in the following week's sermon.

Father's Day Collection for WGB Food Pantry (THROUGH TODAY)

The Willow Grove Baptist Food Pantry was incredibly thankful for the baby wipes and diapers we collected for our Mother's Day collection. When asked what we could collect for Father's Day, the pantry asked if we could collect **bar soap** and **toothpaste** again. They appreciated our bar soap and toothpaste collection so much earlier this year. Each week a family receives either a bar of soap or toothpaste. The pantry blows through them so quickly and they are not items that are donated frequently. The pantry also asked if we could collect **shampoo** and **body wash** as well. So in honor of Father's Day, let's collect as much **toothpaste**, **bar soap**, **body wash** and **shampoo** as possible to help our friends at the WGB Food Pantry. As always, we will continue to collect all non-perishables, diapers, baby wipes, etc. The pantry appreciates our support so much. Any questions, please email Jen at community@christs-oreland.org. Thank you for your continued support - this church community is amazing!

VBS – Collecting Supplies for Service Projects

We are collecting supplies to put together service project kits during Vacation Bible School, which begins **June 17** and would appreciate donations of the following items to help us pack our kits. Thank you for your support!

Please bring supplies to the VBS box in the Narthex. If you'd rather donate money for additional supplies to be purchased, see Becca.

Aiding Others (First Aid Kits)

zippered bag/small plastic box to hold supplies alcohol wipes gauze tweezers antibiotic cream hand sanitizer

Pampering First Responders (Comfort Kits)

shoe boxes (or similar sized boxes) to hold suppliesnon-perishable snacksdrink mixesdeck of cardsshower bombshand sanitizercooling foot lotioncozy sockslip balmhand lotionWawa gift cards

Family Table

Our next gathering is the Poppin' Playground Pizza Popsicle Party (5P's) on **Saturday June 29th** at 5pm.

In the summer break, join us for Movie Nights on July 19 and August 9.

Rally Day is Sunday September 8th.

Pub Theology

Please join us on the last Thursday of every month as we gather for Pub Theology at 7:00 pm. Our next gathering takes place on **Thursday**, **June 27** at Tannery Run Brew Works, 131 E Butler Avenue, Ambler. Please RSVP to Pastor Kaegler so the restaurant has an accurate count. clcseniorpastor@christs-oreland.org.

5 P's at 5 pm (Poppin' Playground Pizza Popsicle Party)

Join some playmates for a Poppin' Playground Pizza Popsicle Party on the following Saturdays at 5 pm in the CLC playground.

June 29 July 13 August 17

For questions or to RSVP contact Becca at director-spiritualform@christsoreland.org.

<u>Trivia Team</u>

Our newly formed Saints and Sinners Trivia Team placed 5th at the last trivia night! The team had a blast and is up for the next challenge on **Wednesday**, **July 3** at Tannery Run Brew Works, 131 E Butler Avenue, Ambler. Trivia Nights take place on the First Wednesday of every month at 7:00 pm.

Interested in joining the team? Come for fun, fellowship and perhaps a prize or two! Contact Daniel Melnick djmelnick328@verizon.net to RSVP.

Summer Movie Nights

Join us for the next movie on **Friday July 19** at dusk, then again on **August 9**. Invite family and friends! All are welcome!

Wednesday Bible Study

All are welcome to join us for Bible Study on **Wednesday mornings at 10:00 am** in room 200 with Pastor Kaegler. Please join us as our current bible study explores Acts.

FAITH IN ACTION

Visitation Ministry

Our Church is reforming its Visitation Committee! We are looking for parishioners who want to keep homebound and hospitalized parishioners linked into the life of the Church through prayers, presence, and the sending of Holy Communion.

If you have a heart for our congregation, want to listen to and treasure the lives of our church's elders, and know that Jesus goes to everybody - contact Pastor Kaegler to join in this ministry! clcseniorpastor@christs-oreland.org. Training, prayer and fellowship will be provided.

PBJ Sandwich Donations

PBJ sandwiches can be dropped off at the following times:

Sunday mornings - Drop off your sandwiches in the narthex fridge when you come to Sunday morning services.

Mondays - 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. Coolers will be outside the chapel. **Tuesdays** - 9:00 am to 10:45 am. Coolers will be outside the chapel.

Please make PBJ sandwiches with plain white bread, creamy peanut butter, and grape jelly. Wrap sandwiches in individual sandwich baggies and leave them uncut. Mark your bag with the number of sandwiches enclosed.

Thank you to our volunteers who pick up and deliver the sandwiches!

If you'd like to help with delivery, please contact the church office.

Thanks to your continued support of this program, CLC donated 137 sandwiches this week!

Willow Grove Food Pantry Collection

A box is located in the back of the Narthex by the "Giving Place" for donations of nonperishable items.

Once a month, or more if needed, we will drop off any donations to the pantry. Please consider bringing a nonperishable item to church with you each time you attend. Together we can help our brothers and sisters in need. Any questions please email Jen at community@christs-oreland.org.

CLC Evening Meditations

Booklets, printed with the prior month's meditations, may be found in a labeled container in the narthex. You are encouraged to pick up one or more copies to read at home and to share with family, friends and neighbors. If you'd like the Tuesday and Thursday meditations delivered to your inbox, please contact the church office. clcsecretary@christs-oreland.org.

If you'd like to join the team of CLC meditation writers, contact John Frantz at johnhfrantz123@gmail.com or call for more details or to discuss at 215-885-4812.

Digital Sound Board

If you are interest in joining our sound board team, please contact Kathryn Steen (kathryn.steen@protonmail.com), Music Chair, or Rick Daniels (daniels.r@verizon.net).

Home Visits

If you or someone you know would like Pastor Kaegler to visit, please contact him at clcseniorpastor@christs-oreland.org or by calling the church office at 215-886-4612.

Christ's Lutheran Preschool

We are presently accepting registrations for our September 2024-2025 Preschool Programs. All programs meet from 9:00-12:00.

If you are interested in one of our programs or want to schedule a tour, please contact Sally Mead, director, for a registration form at clcpreschool@christs-oreland.org or 215.886.4612 ext 6.

Enrollment is limited so you will want to register as soon as possible.

A \$50.00 non-refundable family registration is due at the time of registration.

Online Giving

To make an offering to support the work of Christ's Lutheran Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, you may use this QR code to access our site for secure online giving.



Christ's Lutheran Church 700 East Pennsylvania Avenue + Oreland, PA 19075 215-886-4612 + www.christs-oreland.org clcsecretary@christs-oreland.org

Ministers	The People of Christ's Lutheran Church
Senior Pastor	Reverend Axel Kaegler
Director of Spiritual Form	ation Becca Shelor
Director of Music	Ken Selinger
Administrative Assistant	Lorraine Pfeiffer
Preschool Director	Sally Mead
Sexton	Pete Carr
Assisting Minister	Elise Seyfried
Communion Assistant	Elise Seyfried
Soundboard	Diane Polis
Livestream F	Lick Daniels, Don Hallman, John Melnick, Paul Zieger
Counter(s)	Sue Frantz
Altar Guild	Marlene Foody
Closer	Jen Morrissy
Greeter(s)	TBD
Assisting Minister next we	Paul Zieger

This Week at CLC!

Sunday	9:30 am (summer schedule)	Worship at CLC and online
Monday	9:00 am – noon 9:30 am 10:00 am – 6:00 pm 7:30 pm	Vacation Bible School Monday Morning Men PBJ Collection (chapel) BS Troop 1 (backyard)
Tuesday	9:00 am – noon 9:00 am – 10:45 am 7:00 pm	Vacation Bible School PBJ Collection (chapel) Community Garden Meeting (200)
Wednesday	9:00 am – noon 9:00 am – 3:00 pm 10:00 am	Vacation Bible School Family Stages (PH) Bible Study
Thursday	9:00 am – noon	Vacation Bible School
Friday	9:00 am – noon 9:00 am – 3:00 pm 8:00 pm	Vacation Bible School Family Stages (PH) AA (200)