September 8, 2024 Sixteenth 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!

James tells us to stop showing favoritism in the assembly, treating the rich visitor with more honor than the poor one. Jesus himself seems to show partiality in his first response to the Syrophoenician woman in today's gospel. Was he testing her faith in saying Gentiles don't deserve the goods meant for God's children? Or was he speaking out of his human worldview, but transcended those limits when she took him by surprise with her reply? Either way, the story tells us that God shows no partiality. Everyone who brings a need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.

GATHERING

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

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Bag Blessing

Please stand in body or spirit as you are able.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us.

We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.

The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.

Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ⊕ Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

Amen.



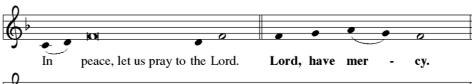
Greeting

Music: SHOWALTER, Anthony J. Showalter, 1858-1924

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.**



ELW Setting Three





For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.





For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.





For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

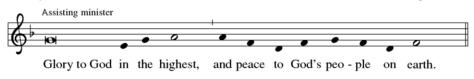




Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

Glory to God

ELW Setting Three





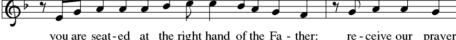


we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry. we wor-ship you,

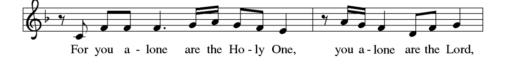


Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,





you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re-ceive our prayer.







Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

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

First Reading

Isaiah 35:4-7a

A reading from Isaiah, chapter 35.

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;
⁷athe burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

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

The congregation will sing the following response:



Text: Psalm 102:1–2; Taizé Community, adapt.
Music: HEAR MY PRAYER, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
Text and music © 1982, 1991 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.
www.gianusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

¹Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

²I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

³Put not your trust in rulers,

in mortals in whom there is no help.

⁴When they breathe their last, they return to earth, and in that day their thoughts perish.

Response

⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the LORD their God;

⁶who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever;

⁷who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. The LORD sets the captive free.

⁸The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;

the LORD loves the righteous.

Response

⁹The LORD cares for the stranger;

the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

¹⁰The LORD shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

Response

Second Reading

James 2:1-17

A reading from James, chapter 2.

¹My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ²For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," ⁴have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not they who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ¬Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

⁸You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ⁹But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. ¹¹For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹²So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. ¹³For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

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

Please stand in body or spirit.

Gospel Acclamation

Celtic Alleluia ELW # 174



Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
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The Holy Gospel

Mark 7:24-37

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁴[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, ²⁵but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly.

³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

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

Please be seated.

The Children's Message

Becca Shelor

A Moment of Prayer

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying ELW # 752



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



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

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943

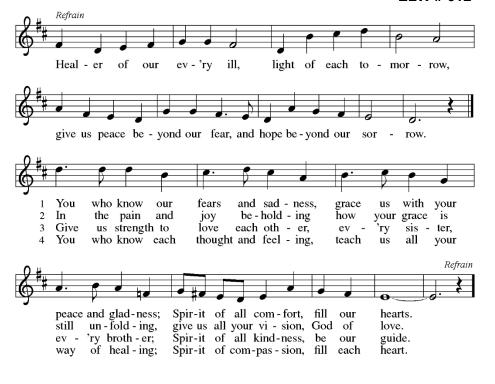
Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema

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The Message

Pastor Axel Kaegler

Please stand in body or spirit.



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL, Marty Haugen
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The 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 kneel or sit as you are able for the prayers.

Prayers of Intercession

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Awaken in our communities of faith a spirit of radical hospitality. Encourage our churches to celebrate and embrace people of diverse backgrounds, experiences, and abilities. Deepen our commitment to ecumenical and interreligious partnerships. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Bring forth water to nourish plants and animals in places suffering from drought. Renew our commitments to protect rivers, lakes, and streams, and make us good stewards of water in our homes and communities. Preserve wetland habitats and the creatures that make their homes there. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Inspire leaders of cities, nations, and tribes to lead with wisdom and humility. Bring peace among peoples in conflict and strengthen global commitments to nonviolent solutions. Guide all who seek refuge from war to a safe haven. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Comfort all who live with chronic illness. Surround them in your tender embrace and sustain all who provide ongoing care and support. Bring hope and healing to people struggling with addiction and nourish the spirits of all who are in recovery. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Nurture in all people the gift of your creating Spirit. Inspire artists and musicians, woodworkers and quilters, poets and dancers. Revive those whose artistic wells have run dry and enliven all who doubt their creative talents. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We give you thanks for all who have died and now find their rest in you. May their faithful witness guide us in our daily life with you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior. **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 be seated.

Stewardship Moment

Matt Menard

Please stand.

Offertory Hymn

Give Thanks TFF # 292



Text: Henry Smith

Music: GIVE THANKS, Henry Smith

Text and music @ 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP). All rights reserved. International @ secured.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **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.

Blessing

God all mighty,
God most merciful

→ bless you, keep you,
and give you peace.

Amen.

The Sending Song

God, Whose Almighty Word ELW # 673



Text: John Marriott, 1780-1825, alt.

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

Dismissal

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

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.



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.

Margaret Anne "Anne" Abbott (mother of Elisa Tull's friend)

Don Berger

Nikki Busch (Becca Shelor's aunt)

Chippy the Clown (long-time friend at CLC events)

Holly Curran (friend of Bob Kelly)

Rev. John Dougherty (Pastor, Trinity Lutheran - Ft. Washington)

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)

Margie Reiman (Robin Griffin's aunt)

Nancy Renner

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 Lois Reynolds (Chris Reynolds' SIL, Sue Frantz' aunt, and former CLC member) who died on September 1. May her loved ones be comforted by the promise and hope of the resurrection.

The flowers on the altar today are dedicated by The Uehling Family in celebration of grandparents and in memory of Spencer Bennion.

Altar Flowers

We have a number of open dates for flower sponsorships!

Would you like to sponsor one or both of the flower arrangements decorating the altar on a Sunday morning? A sign-up sheet is available in the church lobby or you may contact the church office. Flower arrangements are \$30 apiece. Thank you for your support!

Regular Schedule Resumes

TODAY, Sunday, September 8, we return to our regular schedule with services beginning at 10:30 am.

Bag Blessing

Bags will be blessed **TODAY**, **September 8**th during the 10:30 am service.

Backpack, messenger bag, duffel, purse, diaper bag, whatever!

Bags will be blessed for another year of work and/or study!

Bible Blessing

In celebration of our newest disciples receiving their bibles, we're blessing all bibles! Bring one from home on **Sunday, September 22** for a special blessing.

Chancel Choir

Our Chancel Choir returns after the summer break with rehearsals beginning **TODAY**, **Sunday**, **September 8** at 9:00 am in the choir room.

For information on the choir, please contact Ken Selinger at directorofmusic@christs-oreland.org.

Family Table

Rally Day is TODAY, Sunday September 8th beginning at 9:00 am!

In September, Family Table will be meeting at 9 am in Parish Hall September 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th.

Family Table is open to families of all ages and make-ups. Come learn about God, our faith and how we walk in the world as People of God.

Confirmation

Rising 6th graders and up!

Confirmation class meets monthly after services on Sunday until 3 pm **beginning September 15**. Contact Becca for further information at director-spiritualform@christs-oreland.org

Pack 88 Fall Fundraiser

Greetings & Happy Fall!

Pack 88 is pleased to announce our 2024 Fall Fundraiser in Partnership with BloomBox! BloomBox is a local online garden center that sells fall plants, mums, planters, pumpkins, fall décor and more. You will order these things online on their website and they will deliver them by hand, right to your home!

When you order your fall mums, flowers & décor from BloomBox, they will donate 15% of your purchase amount directly to us. We are so excited about this fundraiser because it's an easy way for us to earn money, and all of you have the opportunity to purchase beautiful plants & décor, have it delivered, and support a local business at the same time. It's a win-win for everyone!

Visit <u>getblooming.com</u> **through September 30** and enter code **PACK8815** in the "fundraising code" box during checkout.

Thank you for your support!

60 Plus Returns in September!

The 60 Plus group returns from summer vacation on **Thursday**, **September 12th.** Everyone loves roses. The Zieger family has been synonymous with roses for over 100 years. Paul Zieger will tell us about roses as a Zieger family affair from their growing ranges to the present importing and distribution of the worlds' favorite flower. It will be a fun and informative program that you won't want to miss.

So plan to be in the CLC Parish Hall at 11:30 AM on Thursday the 12th. As an added incentive, pizza will be provided along with our usual scrumptious desserts.

"Luther" Movie

Join us for a screening of the movie "Luther" out on the back lawn **Saturday, September 14** at dusk (about 7:10 pm). Please bring your own chairs or blankets to sit on. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Wonderful Wednesday

Wonderful Wednesday returns for a new season on **Wednesday**, **September 18** at 6:30 pm at the home of Robin & Glenn Griffin, 1934 Audubon Drive, Dresher, PA 19025. Please join us as we enjoy fellowship and a meal. RSVP to Consy Finney cwfinney1@comcast.net or 215-771-5994 by Sunday, September 15.

Men's Group

Join us as our Men's Group meets for the first breakfast of fall on **Saturday, September 21st,** at Halligans Pub, 1619 Bethlehem Pike, Flourtown. 8:00 am-9:30 am.

Topic TBD. RSVP to Jon Rasmussen at jprasmussen9@gmail.com

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, September 26** 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.

Trivia Team

The Saints and Sinners Trivia Team placed 3rd at the September trivia night and won a beer mug!

The next challenge takes place on **Wednesday**, **October 2** 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! RSVP to Daniel Melnick djmelnick328@verizon.net.

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 Romans.

Christ's Lutheran Preschool

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

Please contact Sally Mead, director, for more information at 215.886.4612 x 6 Or clcpreschool@christs-oreland.org.

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).

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 215-885-4812.

Home Visits

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

Nave Teaching Windows Booklet

If you are interested in reading about our stained glass windows, booklets can be found on the ledge under the bulletin board in the lobby. Enjoy!

FAITH IN ACTION

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.

Visitation Ministry

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.

FAITH IN ACTION

CLC Community Yarners

Lunch & Learn

When: **Sunday, October 6, 2024** after the 10:30 church service

Please contact to sign up: Betty Messer: betty.messer508@gmail.com

Please see below for our fall/winter schedule:

Mondays, September 16 & September 30, 2024 Mondays, October 14 & October 28, 2024 Mondays, November 11 & November 25, 2024

Mondays, November 11 & November 23, 2024 Mondays, December 16 & December 30, 2024

Where: 700 E Pennsylvania Ave, Oreland (Room 200)

Time: 11:00 to 1:00PM

Don't know how to knit or crochet? No worries, all levels are welcomed! All items will be donated to a local charity. (TBD)

Please contact:

Betty Messer: betty.messer508@gmail.com, phone: 267-475-2933 & Marty

Frantz: marty.frantz@gmail.com, phone: 215-885-4812

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 131 PBJ sandwiches last week!

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	tion Becca Shelor
Director of Music	Ken Selinger
Administrative Assistant	Lorraine Pfeiffer
Preschool Director	Sally Mead
Sexton	Pete Carr
Assisting Minister	Don Hallman
Soundboard	Diane Polis
Livestream F	ick Daniels, Don Hallman, John Melnick, Paul Zieger
Counter(s)	Tim and Deb Hilbert
Closer	Matt Menard
Greeter(s)	TBD
Assisting Minister next we	ek Wes Craig

This Week at CLC!

AA (200)

Sunday	10:30 am 9:00 am 9:00 am	RALLY DAY	Worship at CLC and online Family Table (PH) Choir Rehearsal (202)
Monday	9:30 am 10:00 am – 6:00 7:30 pm	pm	Monday Morning Men PBJ Collection (chapel) Boy Scout Troop 1 (PH)
Tuesday	9:00 am – 10:45 7:00 pm	am	PBJ Collection (chapel) Council Meeting (200)
Wednesday	10:00 am 7:00 pm		Bible Study AA (PH)
Thursday	11:30 am		60 Plus (PH)

Saturday 7:00 pm Luther Movie (backyard)

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Friday

8:00 pm